



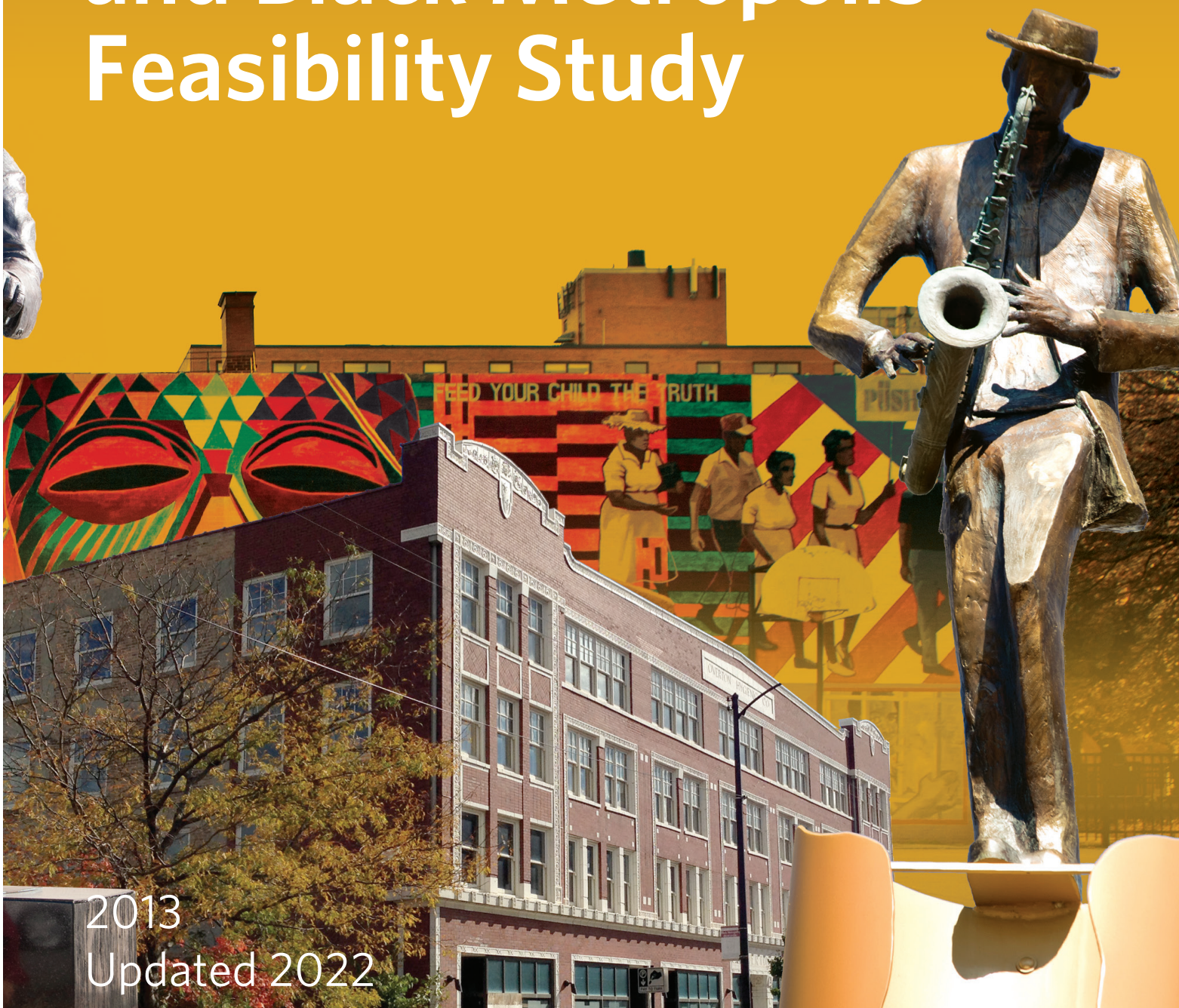
Chicago Metropolitan  
Agency for Planning



Bronzeville  
Community  
Development  
Partnership

*Creating A New Promise*

# Great Migration and Black Metropolis Feasibility Study



2013

Updated 2022

# A Timely Update

## Our Case for Designation

*Unless the lion learns to write his own story, the hunter will always be the hero*

African Proverb

The Bronzeville-Black Metropolis National Heritage Area (BMNHA) will tell the story of The Great Migration to the entire world. We have a compelling story to tell. We do it daily. We share it on our tours and in our community interactions. We reach out to the city and shout it to our young people who need to know where they came from.

The story is about the growth from what was first called “the Black Belt” in a restricted, segregated area, to one that developed into a thriving “Black Metropolis.” Creative and intellectual leaders documented this development in scholarly works, as well as fiction, poetry, theater, art, dance, and music. Foremost is the seminal 1945 work by St. Clair Drake and Horace Cayton, *Black Metropolis A Study of Negro Life in a Northern City*. As Richard Wright wrote in the introduction, “I went to Chicago as a migrant from Mississippi. And there in that great iron city, that impersonal, mechanical city, amid the steam, the smoke, the snowy winds, the blistering suns; there in that self-conscious city, that city so deadly dramatic and stimulating, we caught whispers of the meaning that life could have, and were pushed and pounded by facts much too big for us.”

Several other brilliant and scholarly studies trace the culture and community of Black Chicago, including University of Chicago’s Adam Green’s *Selling the Race: Culture, Community and Black Chicago*, which shows how Black Chicagoans joined the Renaissance usually attributed to Harlem. Adding to this are the essays in *The Black Chicago Renaissance*, edited by Northwestern University’s Darlene Clark Hine and John McCluskey, Jr. that give a bigger insight into the development of the culture of Bronzeville. There are so many examples of the documented history of this great community, including the story of the *Defender* newspaper whose reach was local, national and international. This reach was reciprocal and adds to the wealth we have to share and what will draw tourism to the Heritage Area from far and wide.

Writers Andrew Abbott and Jolyon Wurr in the Encyclopedia of Chicago note that social scientists consider Chicago to be the “most studied city.” The result is a deep and growing body of historic works, social history, studies of urban policy, which provide a multi-faceted landscape of interpretive material on how the Great Migration of Black people from the south to Chicago transformed not only this city but transformed American Culture. This is a story that





has been long neglected, erased, and buried but that deserves to be told in every possibly manner, in every last corner of the Bronzeville-Black Metropolis National Heritage Area. Now is the time to grant this important historic, cultural and natural resource official designation.

## Background

In 2013 the Black Metropolis National Heritage Area Commission (Commission), the Bronzeville Community Development Partnership (the Partnership) and its partners submitted a completed feasibility study to the National Park Service for the designation of a National Heritage Area focused on the Great Migration. The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) assisted with the development of the original study and this update. We also gratefully acknowledge the assistance of the City of Chicago via its Department of Housing and Economic Development, and the Historic Preservation Division of the Department of Planning and Development in the development of the original study. It has been nearly ten years since the submission of the 2013 Feasibility Study and so much has happened to advance the discussion of the Great Migration and its impact on American Culture. Consequently, this update to the study was warranted.

## The Original Study

The original 2013 feasibility study is attached to this update section. The 2013 document follows the guidelines for studies published at the time including the following elements: executive summary, introduction, history and contributions, themes, affected environment, management alternatives, application of interim NHA criteria, vision statement, impact assessment, nationally distinctive landscapes, community engagement, funding considerations, partnership commitments, House and Senate resolutions, BMNHA Steering Committee, literature review, IDNR references, and a description of the proposed project boundaries. An extensive appendix identifies assets in the study area by theme, civic engagement and public involvement, funding alternatives, partner organizations, a copy of House Resolution 5505 (from 2008) and Senate Joint Resolution 0067 from 2010, the Steering Committee members, a literature review, and IDNR references.

## The Study Area

The Black Metropolis study area is located in the greater Bronzeville community of the City of Chicago, approximately five miles south of downtown. The general boundaries are 18th Street to the North, 71st Street to the South, Lake Michigan to the East, and Canal Street to the West. This area represents an assemblage of natural, historic, educational, and recreational resources. It is a cohesive, nationally distinctive landscape that is worthy of preservation through the heritage area designation. Figure 1 below is a map of the study area with congressional district boundaries.



Figure 1. Black Metropolis Study Area with Legislative District Boundaries





# The 2022 Update

Adding to our story is the recently designated Pullman National Monument on its way to becoming a national park. The Pullman story is enhanced with the A. Philip Randolph Pullman Porter Museum ([aprpullmanportermuseum.org](http://aprpullmanportermuseum.org)), which interprets the contribution that the Pullman Porters played in the Great Migration and in national labor history. Its famed visitor center opened in the summer of 2021.

The Ida B. Wells monument was dedicated in 2021 highlighting the work of the journalist and Civil Rights icon as part of a national and international story. Ida's home, honorary street and marker on the site of the Ida B. Wells Homes public housing are part of a Chicago effort to honor her work. This also includes the renaming of Congress Boulevard to Ida B. Wells Drive. We have quite a story to tell.

We have forged relationships with Chicago organizations such as Choose Chicago, the city's tourism center. We work with colleges and universities to provide interviews, tours and lectures for students and faculty, including Illinois Tech (Illinois Institute of Technology), University of Chicago, DePaul University, Roosevelt University, Northwestern University, Chicago College of Optometry, and more. We collaborate with Black Metropolis Research Consortium (BMRC), Chicago History Museum, Civic Knowledge Project (University of Chicago), Bronzeville Historical Society, Camp Douglas Restoration Foundation, and Chicago Urban League.

We are working with the Rosenwald Schools National Park Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park Campaign ([rosenwaldpark.org](http://rosenwaldpark.org)). It is our hope that a visitor center can become a part of Bronzeville by virtue of the institutions that Rosenwald funded and supported.

## New Assets and Updates in the Study Area

The following tables and maps identify new assets in the study area and provide updates to assets identified in the original 2013 study. The first map (Figure 2) and table (Table 1) identify new assets that have been developed since publication of the 2013 study. The second map (Figure 3) and table (Table 2) were identified as significant assets in the 2013 study and have major updates worth noting. The tables use the same classification categories as those used in the original study including: Arts & Culture, Business & Entrepreneurial Pursuits, Education, Industry & Labor, Health & Medicine, Military Life, Politics, Recreation & Professional Sports, Religion & Social Services, Social Activism & Civil Rights, Urban Design & Green Infrastructure.



**Table 1: New Assets in the Study Area**

Map#	Asset Name	Category	Description	Address
1	35 <sup>th</sup> Street Pedestrian Bridge	Urban Design & Green Infrastructure	The bridge was completed in 2016 and connects the Bronzeville community to the lakefront to the east over South Lake Shore Drive and several railroad tracks.	3500 S. Lake Shore Drive
2	1919 Race Riots Markers	Social Activism & Civil Rights	The Chicago Race Riot of 1919 Commemoration Project comprises a series of markers that pay tribute to those killed in the 1919 events. Fourteen markers are now installed, with a total of 38 anticipated upon completion. The markers are located at the sites where the deaths occurred.	Various, 29 <sup>th</sup> Street and the Lake
3	Boxville Marketplace	Business & Entrepreneurial Pursuits	This business incubator, marketplace, and outdoor community event space is fashioned from re-purposed shipping containers. The project started in 2014 with the “Bike Box” and has grown to include 17 containers with space for 20 local businesses operating year-round.	330 E. 51 <sup>st</sup> Street
4	Bronzeville Artists Lofts	Arts & Culture	The \$5.9 million renovation of a long-vacant commercial building now includes 16 live-work spaces for artists and 12,200 square feet of ground-floor commercial space. Opened in 2014.	436 E. 47 <sup>th</sup> Street
5	Bronzeville Trail (proposed)	Urban Design & Green Infrastructure	The Bronzeville Trail Taskforce envisions the creation of a 2-mile linear park on the abandoned Kenwood “L” line embankment running from Kenwood Avenue and 40 <sup>th</sup> Street on the West terminating at Lake Park Ave and 41 <sup>st</sup> Street and connecting to the 41 <sup>st</sup> Street pedestrian bridge to the Lakefront.	40 <sup>th</sup> and Kenwood Avenue
6	Bronzeville Walk of Fame	Arts & Culture	More than 100 neighborhood residents are celebrated on the Bronzeville Walk of Fame. They include civil rights activist Ida B Wells, poet Gwendolyn Brooks, and astronaut Robert H Lawrence, Jr. The bronze plaques are on medians, sidewalks, and crosswalks and are located along ten blocks. The monument to the Great Northern Migration at 26 <sup>th</sup> Pl. and Victory Monument at 35 <sup>th</sup> St. frame the permanent outdoor exhibit.	Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive between 25 <sup>th</sup> -35 <sup>th</sup> Street
7	Ida B. Wells Monument	Social Activism & Civil Rights	The Light of Truth Ida B. Wells National Monument by sculptor Richard Hunt was completed, installed, and dedicated in 2021. It is a large metal and stone modern structure with a plaque, resembling an abstracted flame.	3729 S. Langley Avenue





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Map#	Asset Name	Category	Description	Address
8	Lillian Marcie Theater	Arts & Culture	Plans to transform the historic former Marshall Field & Company Warehouse Stable from 1904 into the Lillian Marcie Theatre advanced with a \$3 million City of Chicago grant awarded in October 2021. The \$13.5 million arts complex will have a 350-seat main theater, a 100-set black box theater, and house the African American Museum of Performing Arts. The developer is renown actor Harry Lennix.	4343 S. Cottage Grove Avenue
9	Muddy Waters Home/MOJO Museum (Muddy Original Jam Out)	Arts & Culture	McKinley Morganfield's home was granted Chicago Landmark status in 2021 (protecting it from demolition) and is slated to become a community museum honoring the blues legend. Photography, art, stories, and memorabilia of Muddy Waters would be featured. It will feature a recording studio, youth education programs, music instruction and sell Muddy-inspired merchandise.	4339 S. Lake Park Avenue
10	National Museum of Gospel Music (planned)	Arts & Culture	Plans are underway to make the former Pilgrim Baptist Church site the home of the National Museum of Gospel Music. The proposed 45,000 square foot museum will feature multigenerational programming and educational exhibits, an auditorium seating up to 350 designed for television production, a collection of video archives including the Stellar Gospel Music Awards programming, a listening and research library.	3301 S. Indiana Avenue
11	Obama Presidential Center	Art & Culture	Groundbreaking occurred in September 2021 on the Obama Presidential Center and will comprise the official presidential archives, library and museum, a branch of the Chicago Public library, and several gathering spaces in 200,000 to 250,000 square feet.	6401 S. Stony Island Avenue
12	Obsidian House/ Justice D. Harry Hammer/Lutrelle 'Lu' & Jorja Palmer Mansion	Business & Entrepreneurial Pursuits	Historic mansion purchased in 2021 by The Obsidian Collection a non-profit with plans to restore the structure and turn it into an archive, museum and private club, The Obsidian House.	3656 S. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive



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<b>Map#</b>	<b>Asset Name</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Address</b>
13	Williams Park Field House	Recreation & Professional Sports	Construction of a new 11,200 sf fieldhouse building of a striking contemporary design. The improvements include entry lobby and reception area, gymnasium with storage and multipurpose club rooms for art, education, performances, meetings and exercise. Site improvements include a new spray pool, bike racks, landscaping, exterior lighting, and concrete sidewalks and benches.	2820 S. State Street
14	Provident Hospital	Health & Medicine	A new dialysis center opened in March of 2021 and plans for the larger \$240 million new facility are currently delayed due to the Corona virus pandemic. Cook County plans for the new building to be located to the west of the current, historic 1891 hospital structure.	550 E. 51st Street





Figure 2. New Assets in the Black Metropolis Study Area



**Table 2: Updates to Assets in the Study Area**

<b>Map #</b>	<b>Asset Name</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Address</b>
15	Bee Branch of the Chicago Public Library (CPL)	Education	In 2018 the CPL completed updates to the branch totaling \$2.32 million. It includes two additional floors with a new digital youth media lab for teens and adults and a dedicated early childhood area.	3647 S. State Street
16	Camp Douglas	Military Life	In winter 2020 the board of the Camp Douglas Restoration Foundation announced plans to create exhibits for a pop-up “traveling museum” they also applied for a battlefield preservation planning grant from the National Park Service (NPS). Although this grant was denied in 2021, they do plan to revise the application based on feedback from the NPS and reapply in 2022.	31st -33rd Place and S. Cottage Grove-S. Giles Avenues
17	The Forum	Arts & Culture	Urban Juncture is developing plans to restore the building, in 2020 the roof over Forum Hall was replaced. They received a State of IL Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity incubator grant to rehab the first-floor retail storefronts. Building on this success, the owner has begun the design process for the complete restoration of The Forum as an entertainment and hospitality venue.	318 E. 43rd Street
18	George P. Hall Branch of the Chicago Public Library	Education	In 2021 CPL created a new website landing page for its digital collections, as well as a redesigned website landing page for Chicago history. Collections include the George Cleveland Hall Branch Digital Collection.	4801 S Michigan Avenue
19	South Side Community Art Center	Arts & Culture	The organization recently celebrated its 80th anniversary and was awarded a National Trust “Hands-On Preservation Experience” grant which helped to restore historic windows and carry out exterior cleaning of the 1899 building.	3831 S. Michigan Avenue
20	Quinn Chapel African Methodist Episcopal	Religion & Social Services	In the last several years, the congregation has completed millions in capital improvement and restoration projects including all new electrical service, air conditioning, an elevator and American Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility, a basement archive and museum space, wired conference rooms, and a new roof.	2401 S. Wabash Avenue
21	Rosenwald Courts (Michigan Boulevard Garden Apartments)	Urban Design & Green Infrastructure	Multiple award-winning renovation and restoration of this historic early 20 <sup>th</sup> century art deco 239-unit residential complex was completed in 2016. It was home to Nat King Cole, Duke Ellington and Lorraine Hansberry, among other notable residents.	4642 S. Michigan Avenue





Figure 3. Updated Assets in the Black Metropolis Study Area



# Portrayal of Partnership Commitments

The table below is a summary of commitments that partners are willing to contribute to the successful implementation of the Black Metropolis National Heritage Area. (Originally listed as Appendix 4 in the 2013 study.) We are so pleased to share that a wide variety of partners will collaborate with the BMNHA to plan and execute programs, exhibits, tours, help to conduct fundraisers, and commit to making in-kind and financial contributions.

<b>Table 3: Summary of Recent Partnership Commitments</b>			
<b>Organization</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Commitment of Resources</b>	<b>TA/Education Commitment</b>
Black Metropolis Research Consortium (BMRC)	Host annual symposium, commission research papers, award grants to scholars	\$10,000 value of in-kind symposium costs	Work with BMRC member groups: DePaul University; Chicago History Museum on archival project
Bronzeville Community Development Partnership	Financial and Fundraising partner	Chicago Community Trust Grant \$15,000	Development of management plan for NHA; increase fundraising with ongoing appeals
Bronzeville Historical Society	Develop and conduct tours, exhibits and education programs	Support and outreach to community for archival project	Reciprocal referrals for international destination tourism
Calumet Heritage Area	Part of larger footprint that tells the story of the Great Migration	In-kind funding and support	Reciprocal educational and tourism opportunities in conjunction with Illinois and Michigan (I&M) Canal Corridor NHA
Camp Douglas Restoration Foundation	Develop and conduct tours, interpretation materials	Support for NHA and committed outreach to legislators	Mutually planned and executed seminar on archeological discoveries in Bronzeville; paper by Dr. Gregory and Dr. Peterson
Chicago History Museum	Programmatic partner	Lending and licensing archival materials at no cost	Curatorial assistance with exhibits
Chicago Urban League (CUL)	Resource development partner	Host and co-produce annual fundraising event	Annual tour for CUL Impact fellows





**Table 3: Summary of Recent Partnership Commitments**

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Commitment of Resources</b>	<b>TA/Education Commitment</b>
Emmett Till Home and Museum	Programmatic partner	Reciprocal funding assistance from NHA funds	Develop tours and exhibition materials
Illinois College of Optometry	Partner in community	Liaison with Community Affairs department	Lecture/presentation to new students and tours of neighborhood
Illinois Tech (Illinois Institute of Technology)	Partner in community	Liaison with Community Affairs department	Veteran's Day virtual presentation Blacks in Military History; Black History Month schools presentation
Obama Foundation	Destination tourism partner	Resource development	Community programming regarding the Great Migration for educators and schools
Pullman National Monument	Part of larger footprint that tells the story of the Great Migration	Working together to promote destination tourism by sharing information and resources	Integration into tour itineraries and referrals for visits
Quinn Chapel African Methodist Episcopal	Programming partner in community; Underground Railroad stop and great migration refuge	Working together to promote destination tourism by sharing information and resources	Integration into tour itineraries and referrals for visits
Julius Rosenwald and Rosenwald Schools National Park Campaign	Interpretation of historic buildings in Bronzeville with connection to Julius Rosenwald's role in supporting the growth of the Black Metropolis	Support for prospective center in Bronzeville or Chicago (other location)	Development of tour and program on the possibility of National Park center being in Bronzeville
South Side Community Art Center (SSCAC)	Program partner	Support for SSCAC will be incorporated into management plan	Incorporate into tours and reciprocal programs



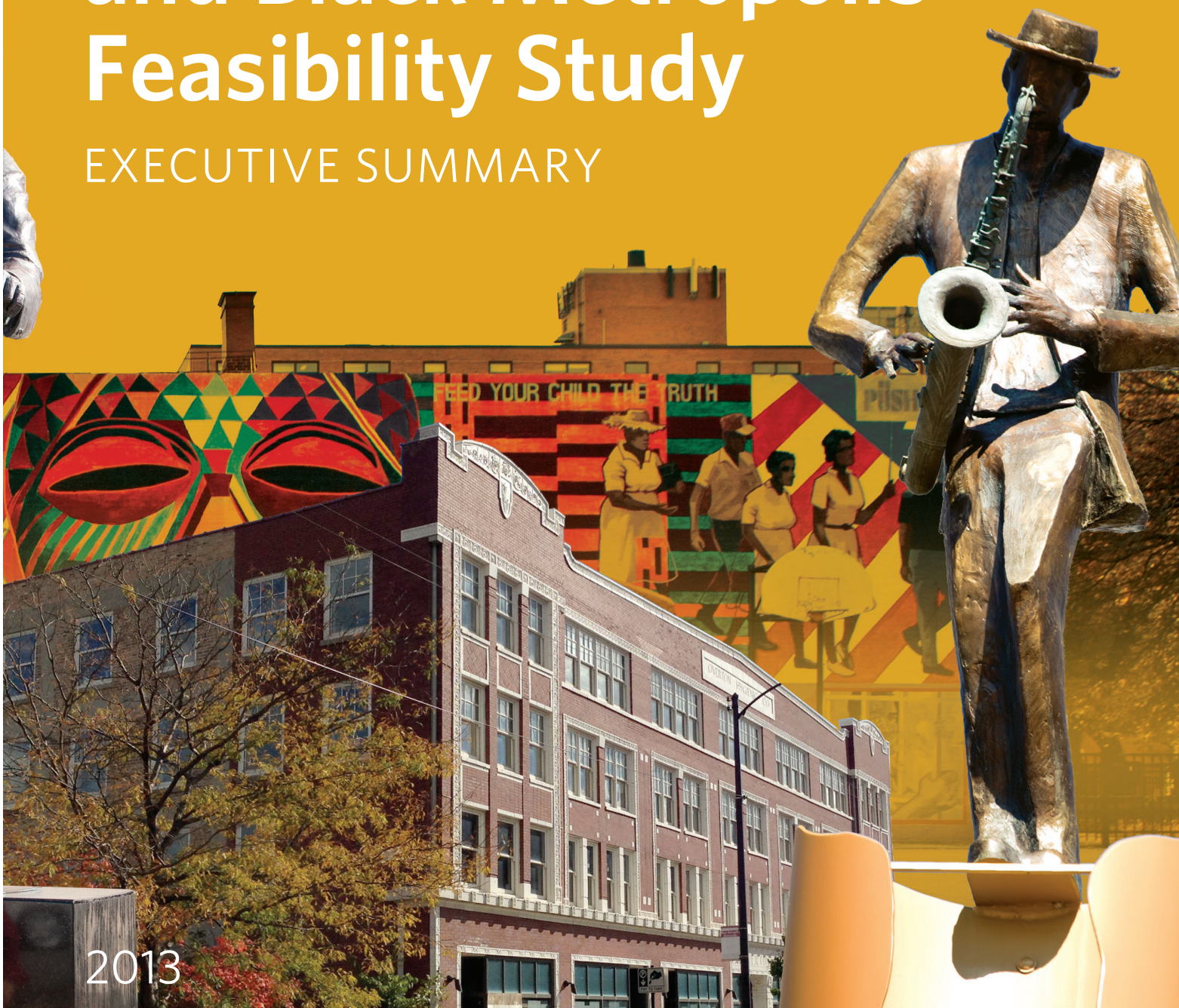
CMAP



*Creating A New Future*

# Great Migration and Black Metropolis Feasibility Study

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



2013

## Executive Summary

The purpose of the Black Metropolis-Bronzeville National Heritage Area Feasibility Study is to support the designation of a National Heritage Area (NHA) on Chicago's mid-South Side, a heritage area which tells the story of African-Americans' struggle and perseverance during the Great Migration and beyond. The African-Americans who moved to the South Side of Chicago in the early 1900s left a lasting legacy in the community, Chicago, and is an important chapter in our nation's history. The impact the Great Migration had on Chicago has been well documented by scholars, historians, and local residents who, in some cases, remember what it was like to walk the Stroll, the center of the Black community, enveloped by music, nightlife, and a bustling business community.

During the Great Migration thousands of African-American migrants moved to the North, coming by train, foot, and car to escape the intense oppression of the South. Northern cities, like Chicago, were touted as places of great opportunity. While the North was far from paradise, there was room for African-Americans to obtain an education and create a cultural and economic mecca for themselves. This mecca is what this study refers to as the Black Metropolis; it was a place to see and be seen, a community that was home to a who's who of Black America. It was a place that cultivated a number of African-American firsts, which included such names as Dr. Daniel Hale Williams, Jesse Binga, Ida B. Wells, Jack Johnson, Nat King Cole, Mahalia Jackson, John Johnson, and Muddy Waters – professionals, entrepreneurs and artists who have made important contributions to our nation.

NHAs are important not only because they highlight the history of the founding of America and invaluable natural resources; heritage areas also recognize the people and cultural resources that have helped make America what it is today. The story of African-American migration to the North, and to Chicago's South Side, is a part of many individuals' and families' histories. African-American pioneers during the Great Migration fought for much of what many take for granted today. They influenced not only music, arts and culture, politics and civil rights and social activism, but they paved the way for African-American business and entrepreneurial pursuits and successes.

The criteria for national heritage area designation are not insignificant, and neither are the results of this study. While the writing of this feasibility study has taken a year, the community has put forth decades of their time and energy to garner support for heritage area designation. The study area is eight-and-a-half square miles and located completely within the City of Chicago. Within these boundaries there are over 200 assets – buildings, collections, people, environmental resources, and more – that, when considered collectively, exhibit a compelling story of what it was like to be an African-American during the Great Migration. From the roots of gospel music to the 2008 election of Barack Obama, the Black Metropolis-Bronzeville community has played a significant role in the nation's history. Together local residents, businesses, community-based organizations, institutions, government entities, and others have



come together to support this feasibility study, and ultimately the area's designation as a national heritage area.

The interpretation of the story of African-American history during the Great Migration is a critical component to the education of Americans no matter what their race. The Black Metropolis-Bronzeville area possesses much more than is learned in school about the history of African-Americans after slavery. By fostering understanding and learning across racial and cultural lines, we as Americans become better equipped to work with one another. The strength and commitment of the Black Metropolis-Bronzeville community, its physical assets, and the opportunity to share them is the reason why the Black Metropolis-Bronzeville area is worthy of NHA designation.

Upon completion, this Feasibility Study will be shared with partners to confirm their support, so that they can continue to work together to develop a conceptual financial plan outlining the roles for all participants and the federal government.

## **Purpose of the feasibility study**

This Feasibility Study has been undertaken by the [Black Metropolis National Heritage Area Commission](#) (Commission), the Bronzeville Community Development Partnership (the Partnership), along with numerous community partners. Technical assistance was provided by the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning's (CMAP) [Local Technical Assistance \(LTA\) program](#) and the [City of Chicago Department of Housing and Economic Development](#) (DHED) and its [Historic Preservation Division](#) (HPres). This Feasibility Study seeks to explore a number of important factors which will inform the National Park Service (NPS) as it considers designation of the study area as a National Heritage Area (NHA). Moreover, this study seeks to determine whether NHA designation is the best way to achieve coordinated conservation, preservation, education, and economic goals of the community, with the hope that these efforts will prove that the Black Metropolis is qualified for designation as a NHA by the United States Congress.

The Feasibility Study is organized into eight chapters. Below is a description of what can be found in each chapter. The full Feasibility Study can be found online at: [www.blackmetropolisnha.com/](http://www.blackmetropolisnha.com/) or at [www.cmap.illinois.gov/bmnha](http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/bmnha).

### **Chapter 1: Introduction**

This chapter provides an overview of the Feasibility Study and the process by which this study has been developed.

### **Chapter 2: Study Area History and Contributions**

This chapter describes the history of the people and landscape of the Black Metropolis from the 1800s to present day. It discusses the people, places, and ideas that have influenced Chicago and America's history.

### **Chapter 3: Themes**

Building off the study area history and contributions, Chapter 3 lays out the interpretive themes that this heritage area should focus on in its first few years of development.

#### **Chapter 4: Affected Environment**

This chapter describes resources in the study area and the potential impacts of the proposed interpretive themes. Future projects undertaken within the heritage area will require further evaluation when the design and project implementation details are more fully defined.

#### **Chapter 5: Management Alternatives**

This chapter describes three alternative management approaches for the implementation of the heritage area goals. It covers the proposed organizational structure of the coordinating entity, implementation strategies and actions, potential partners, possible funding opportunities, and early implementation activities.

#### **Chapter 6: Application of Interim NHA Criteria**

This chapter discusses each criterion and evaluates the potential for heritage area designation.

#### **Chapter 7: Vision Statement**

Based on public input and engagement, the vision statement of the proposed heritage area is described in detail in this chapter.

#### **Chapter 8: Impact Assessment**

This chapter describes the anticipated impacts related to the various management alternatives. It also addresses the potential impacts of identified management alternatives described in Chapter 4.

### **What are National Heritage Areas?**

National Heritage Areas are designated by Congress as places where natural, cultural and historic resources combine to form a cohesive, nationally important landscape. Heritage areas tell nationally important stories that celebrate our nation's diverse heritage. NHAs are lived-in landscapes. Consequently, NHA entities collaborate with communities to determine how to make heritage relevant to local interests and needs.

NHAs are a grassroots, community-driven approach to heritage conservation and economic development. Through public-private partnerships, NHA entities support historic preservation, natural resource conservation, recreation, heritage tourism, and educational projects. Leveraging funds and long-term support for projects, NHA partnerships foster pride of place and an enduring stewardship ethic.

NHAs are not national park units. Rather, NPS partners with, provides technical assistance, and distributes matching federal funds from Congress to NHA entities. NPS does not assume ownership of land inside heritage areas or impose land use controls.<sup>1</sup>

For more information on national heritage areas, visit:

<http://www.nps.gov/history/heritageareas/>

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<sup>1</sup> From <http://www.nps.gov/history/heritageareas/FAQ/>

## **Purpose of the study**

The purpose of this study is to provide the NPS with information regarding the appropriateness of designating Chicago's Black Metropolis area as a NHA. Located within the greater Bronzeville community, the Black Metropolis NHA would establish a framework within which residents, community organizations, local institutions, businesses, and elected officials will work together to interpret the area's distinctive landscape, history and culture of the Black Metropolis, and the story of the Great Migration. The ultimate goal of the NHA will be to focus on tourism and economic development, building upon the community's existing education and cultural tourism resources.

After designation, the first step in the process will be to establish a coordinating entity, which will connect various organizations seeking to share, educate, and interpret the history of Bronzeville; organizations that seek to improve quality of life in the community; and organizations looking to promote the area to visitors and prospective investors to ensure that future development in Bronzeville is informed by its rich history and cultural legacy. The coordinating entity will assist in preserving and protecting the historic sites, neighborhoods, and cultural artifacts of Chicago's Black Metropolis and Great Migration period. It will also promote the area's history and reinforce the accomplishments of Chicago's African-Americans to current and future generations.

## **Study process**

The process to develop this study was informed by nearly two decades of coalition-building led by community-based organizations, specifically the Bronzeville Community Development Partnership (the Partnership) and the Bronzeville Visitor Information Center (BVIC). These two organizations are not-for-profit organizations located in the heart of the present-day Black Metropolis. They have collaborated for many years to pursue a number of goals, one of which is authenticating the importance of the Black Metropolis to our nation's history by seeking NHA designation.

The Partnership is a collaboration of nine community-based organizations, local institutions, and neighborhood businesses that serve as partners and advisors who represent a broad spectrum of social, cultural, and tourism interests throughout the community. The Partnership's purpose is to advance Bronzeville's profile as a destination for cultural and heritage tourism, and to ensure that tourism and any associated development contributes to local sustainability.

## **Study area**

The Black Metropolis study area is located in the greater Bronzeville community of the City of Chicago, approximately five miles south of downtown. The general boundaries are; 18th Street to the North, 71st Street to the South, Lake Michigan to the East, and Canal Street to the West. (See Figure 1). This area represents an assemblage of natural, historic, educational, and recreational resources. It is a cohesive, nationally distinctive landscape that is worthy of preservation through the heritage area designation. The area includes a number of Chicago community areas, including the following: Armour Square, Douglas, Fuller Park, Grand Boulevard, Greater Grand Crossing, Kenwood, Near South Side, Oakland, Washington Park, and Woodlawn.



Figure 1. Study Area

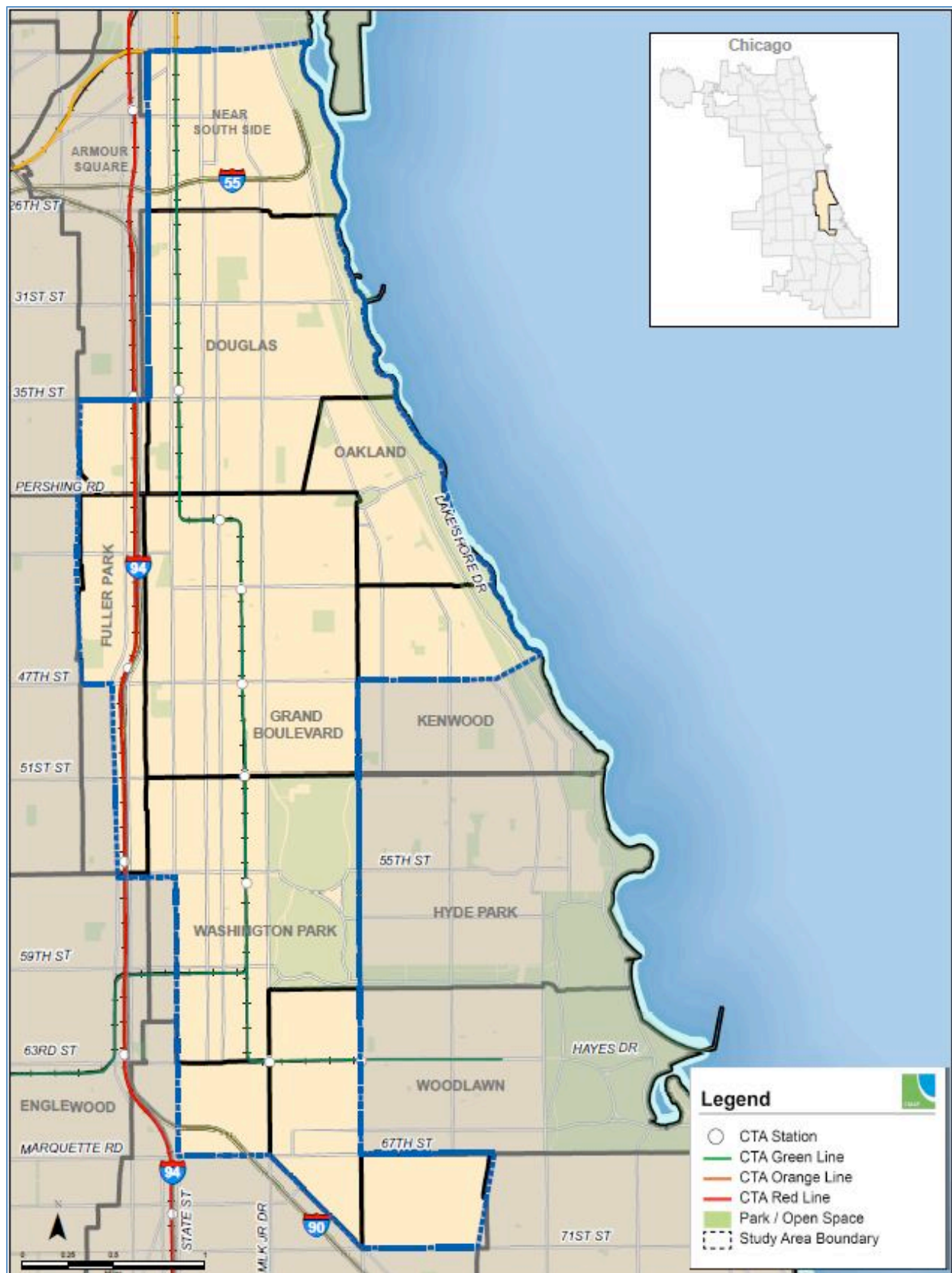
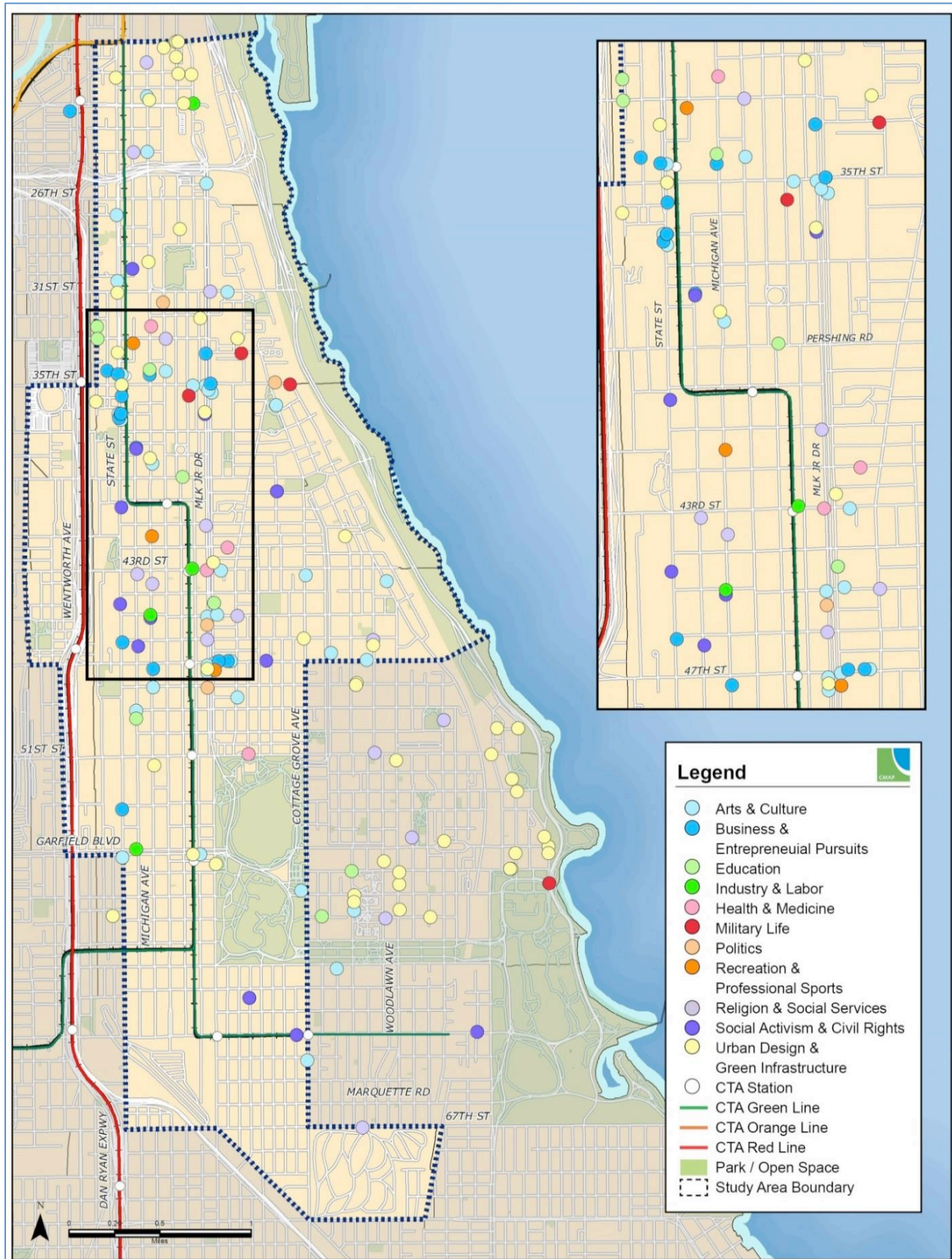


Figure 2. Existing Black Metropolis Heritage Assets by Theme



# Chapter 1: Introduction

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NHAs are not national park units. Rather, NPS partners with, provides technical assistance, and distributes matching federal funds from Congress to NHA entities. NPS does not assume ownership of land inside heritage areas or impose land use controls.<sup>1</sup> For more information on national heritage areas, visit <http://www.nps.gov/history/heritageareas/>.

## **Purpose of the study**

The purpose of this study is to provide the NPS with information regarding the appropriateness of designating Chicago's Black Metropolis area as a NHA. Located within the greater Bronzeville community, the Black Metropolis NHA would establish a framework within which residents, community organizations, local institutions, businesses, and elected officials will work together to interpret the area's distinctive landscape, history and culture of the Black Metropolis, and the story of the Great Migration. The ultimate goal of the NHA will be to focus

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<sup>1</sup> From <http://www.nps.gov/history/heritageareas/FAQ/>.

on tourism and economic development, building upon the community's existing education and cultural tourism resources.

After designation, the first step in the process will be to establish a coordinating entity, which will connect various organizations seeking to share, educate, and interpret the history of Bronzeville; organizations that seek to improve quality of life in the community; and organizations looking to promote the area to visitors and prospective investors to ensure that future development in Bronzeville is informed by its rich history and cultural legacy. The coordinating entity will assist in preserving and protecting the historic sites, neighborhoods, and cultural artifacts of Chicago's Black Metropolis and Great Migration period. It will also promote the area's history and reinforce the accomplishments of Chicago's African-Americans to current and future generations.

## Study process

The process to develop this study was informed by nearly two decades of coalition-building led by community-based organizations, specifically the Bronzeville Community Development Partnership (the Partnership) and the Bronzeville Visitor Information Center (BVIC). These two organizations are not-for-profit organizations located in the heart of the present-day Black Metropolis. They have collaborated for many years to pursue a number of goals, one of which is authenticating the importance of the Black Metropolis to our nation's history by seeking NHA designation.

The Partnership is a collaboration of nine community-based organizations, local institutions, and neighborhood businesses that serve as partners and advisors who represent a broad spectrum of social, cultural, and tourism interests throughout the community. The Partnership's purpose is to advance Bronzeville's profile as a destination for cultural and heritage tourism, and to ensure that tourism and any associated development contributes to local sustainability.

The Partnership has led heritage-area designation efforts by engaging in a multiyear planning process which has involved extensive public input around the proposed NHA. The following is a timeline of activities that ultimately led to this study.

### **2004: Commission formed**

In 2004, the Partnership formed a steering committee to work on the Black Metropolis NHA project. The steering committee was later named the Black Metropolis National Heritage Area Commission (the Commission). The Commission is co-chaired by six community leaders each of whom leads a subcommittee – capacity building, planning and preservation, education and research, tourism and economic development, hospitality, and workforce development and training. A complete list of the steering committee membership can be found in Appendix 7.

### ***2005: Educating and learning***

The Commission hosted heritage area development summits in 2005, 2007, 2008, and 2010, bringing together local leaders to discuss the campaign to preserve the Black Metropolis as a NHA. At each summit, the Commission introduced participants to the project, shared plans for the heritage area, sought feedback, and identified priorities.

### ***2007: Alliance of National Heritage Areas International conference***

In 2007, the Commission sent a twelve-member delegation to the Alliance of National Heritage Areas International Conference in Detroit, Michigan. The purpose of this trip was for delegates to learn more about the process by which heritage areas receive designation. The Commission engaged government leaders on what was needed to develop locally-supported goals and create strong collaborations among key stakeholders.

### ***2008: Congressional resolution***

One of the outcomes of the working summits was drafting the language of a congressional resolution of support (see Appendix 5 and 6). On February 27, 2008, Congressman Bobby Rush introduced House Resolution (H.R.) 5505, the Black Metropolis National Heritage Area Study Bill. The resolution's purpose was to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to determine the feasibility of designating the Black Metropolis as a NHA. H.R. 5505 was a product of the five-year collaboration between Congressman Rush and the Commission. Ultimately, the bill did not receive enough national support, and it was not approved by the U.S. House of Representatives.

Recognizing that the hundredth anniversary of the Great Migration was approaching, the Commission agreed to focus its efforts on planning a Centennial celebration. In 2008, the Commission hosted a legislative reception at the Illinois Governor's Conference on Tourism in Springfield, Illinois. At this reception, the Commission presented the Black Metropolis National Heritage Area project to the governor and requested the state designate a commission to assist in the planning of a Great Migration Centennial celebration in 2016. At this time, the Governor took no action on the centennial resolution.

### ***2009: Congressional resolution***

On November 3, 2009, Congressmen Rush, Hare, Manzullo, Shimkus, and Jackson, brought H.R. 4004 to the floor, again requesting that the Secretary of the Interior conduct a study to determine the feasibility of designating the study area as the Black Metropolis National Heritage Area in the State of Illinois. At this time, there was not enough support to pass H.R. 4004, and the bill was ultimately referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.

### ***2010: Great Migration Centennial Commission***

With the resolution stalled at the federal level, the Commission worked to continue the conversation around the state for support for the centennial celebration of the Great Migration. A resolution was put forth to the Illinois General Assembly, sponsored by Illinois State Senator Mattie Hunter and State Representative Ken Dunkin. The resolution recognized the 100-year anniversary of the largest migration to ever occur in North America. Co-chaired by Governor Pat Quinn and former Chicago Mayor Richard Daley, the centennial commission includes 25





appointed members as the executive board and a nominated honorary board. The Black Metropolis National Heritage Area Commission is recognized as the Council of Advisors in planning the commemorative celebration. The Great Migration Centennial Commission (SJR0067) was approved by both houses of the Illinois General Assembly on March 17, 2010 (see Appendix 6).

The Great Migration Centennial 1916-2016 celebration will pay homage to the Great Migration through a series of exhibit programs that build off heritage area themes, including an unprecedented series of “homecoming” tribute concerts by native Chicagoans. The Mayor’s Office of Special Events plans to highlight the Centennial during the 2016 Blues Music Festival, Jazz Music Festival, Gospel Music Festival, and other annual cultural activities. University partners are also engaged in the Centennial conversation and plan to host educational symposiums, tours, conferences, and related courses in 2016.

Finally, in addition to live events, the community is developing a digital, neighborhood information network called Bronzeville Commons. The network will be an online resource for all things Bronzeville – past, present, and future.

### **2011: Feasibility study**

The first step in NHA designation is to conduct a feasibility study. This study can be undertaken at the prompting of Congress via a resolution requesting the Secretary of the Interior develop a feasibility study. This approach had been unsuccessful in the past due to lack of broad-based support from Congress. The second way a feasibility study can be developed is through local capacity. In 2011, the Commission submitted a request to CMAP’s LTA program to assist in the development of a feasibility study. This proposal was accepted and directly resulted in CMAP’s assistance in developing this study.

The first step in developing the feasibility study was to understand the work that the Commission and Partnership had accomplished to-date. It was also determined that the study would require a significant commitment from project partners, therefore an advisory committee comprised of Commission members, was created to guide the development of this study.

### **Project Advisory Committee**

The Project Advisory Committee (PAC), supported by DHED and CMAP, held monthly meetings to discuss and provide input to relevant tasks necessary for this document. Advisory committee members were also tasked with identifying, inviting, and engaging stakeholders to participate in various events during the study process. Together they have participated in numerous public events disseminating information about the proposed NHA; the advisory committee’s participation in this process has been vital to engaging the greater Bronzeville community in the development of the feasibility study.

PAC members include:

- Kimberly Brown, neighborhood resident
- Delmarie Cobb, Black Metropolis National Heritage Area Commission
- Leroy Kennedy, Illinois Institute of Technology
- Yvette Le Grand, neighborhood resident
- Dr. Christopher Reed, Roosevelt University
- Paula Robinson, Bronzeville Community Development Partnership
- Christopher Vaughn, WTTW Chicago Public Television Community Liaison
- Beth Johnson, Historic Preservation Division
- James Wilson, Department of Housing and Economic Development

## Study area

The Black Metropolis study area is located in the greater Bronzeville community of the City of Chicago, approximately five miles south of downtown. The general boundaries are; 18th Street to the North, 71st Street to the South, Lake Michigan to the East, and Canal Street to the West. (See Figure 1. Black Metropolis Study Area). This area represents an assemblage of natural, historic, educational, and recreational resources. It is a cohesive, nationally distinctive landscape that is worthy of preservation through the heritage area designation. The area includes a number of Chicago community areas, including the following: Armour Square, Douglas, Fuller Park, Grand Boulevard, Greater Grand Crossing, Kenwood, Near South Side, Oakland, Washington Park, and Woodlawn.



Chicago Metropolitan  
Agency for Planning



## Coordination with concurrent studies and past plans

The review of nearly 30-years of plans and studies for greater Bronzeville reveals that extensive planning and implementation activities have set the stage for the proposed heritage area. This section describes the key findings of these documents in an effort to understand the local and regional framework, within which the proposed NHA – and consequently the coordinating entity – will have to work. This section also identifies areas where the proposed coordinating entity could help to implement existing plans through economic development activities and cultural heritage tourism.

The plans and studies that were reviewed include:

1. Black Metropolis Landmark Report (1984)
2. Mid-South Strategic Development Plan (1993)
3. Chicago Housing Authority's Plan for Transformation (2000)
4. Quad Communities Quality of Life Plan: Connecting Past, Present and Future (2005)
5. Cottage Grove Corridor Master Plan (2006)
6. Cottage Grove Beautification Plan (2006)
7. Cottage Grove Design and Streetscape Guidelines (2007)
8. Re-Connecting Neighborhoods Plan (2009)
9. Developing Vibrant Retail in Bronzeville (2012)
10. South Lakefront Corridor Transit Study (2013)

### ***Black Metropolis Landmark Report (1984)***

The Black Metropolis Landmark Report was instrumental in supporting the successful application to the National Register of Historic Places for nine local structures. The report highlighted the importance of preserving Chicago's African-American history through the creation of a historic district for the area associated with the Black Metropolis. Highlighting the rise and decline of the Black Metropolis, the Chicago Landmark Report identifies local structures worthy of preservation, which were crucial to the neighborhood's history of music, print media, manufacturing, religious institutions, and commerce. On April 30, 1986 each of the following structures received national landmark status:

1. Overton Hygienic/Douglass National Bank Building, 3619-27 South State Street
2. Chicago Bee Building, 3647-55 South State Street
3. Wabash Avenue YMCA, 3763 South Wabash Avenue
4. Chicago Defender Building, 3435 South Indiana Avenue
5. Unity Hall, 3140 South Indiana Avenue
6. Eighth Regiment Armory, 3533 South Giles Avenue
7. Sunset Café/Grand Terrace Café, 315 East 35th Street
8. Victory Monument, 35th Street and South Martin Luther Jr. Drive
9. Liberty Life/Supreme Life Insurance Company, 3501 South Martin Luther King Jr. Drive





This report was submitted to the Commission on Chicago Landmarks for consideration. The Commission was supportive of designation. When the City's Department of Planning was presented with the report, it was decided to incorporate the plan for designation into the strategic plan for revitalization of the area. Meanwhile, Commission staff moved forward with the report for National Register designation so that property owners would be able to take advantage of tax incentives for architectural restoration projects. The report was revised in 1994, and on August 28, 1997, it was submitted to Chicago's City Council for their consideration of landmark designation. The Chicago City Council approved the recommendation for Chicago Landmark status of each individual building in 1998. These individual landmark buildings make up the Black Metropolis-Bronzeville Historic District.

Two additional structures were mentioned in the report, but ultimately not included in the proposed district. They are the site of the Jordan Building, 3529-49 South State Street and the site of the National Pythian Temple, located at 3735-45 South State Street. Due to a lack of official designation, and new development in the area, neither building remains today.

### ***Mid-South Strategic Development Plan (1993)***

The City of Chicago developed the Mid-South plan in 1993, setting short and long-term goals for reinvestment in greater Bronzeville. The plan recommends new development focus on existing assets like McCormick Place Convention Center, and also promotes the need for increased connectivity from Cottage Grove Avenue to the Hyde Park neighborhood and the Museum of Science and Industry. The plan also notes the opportunity greater Bronzeville has for enhanced tourism by capitalizing on the community's historic boulevards and Blues history.

The Mid-South Planning and Development Commission worked diligently in the 1990s to implement this plan, restoring a number of historic buildings throughout Bronzeville. These buildings include residences located within the designated landmark Black Metropolis-Bronzeville Historic District. A Blues District was also established to help restore 47th Street, and 3rd Ward Alderman Dorothy Tillman and Lou Rawls, famed vocalist and former Ida B. Wells resident, spearheaded the development of the Harold Washington Cultural Center to encourage nightlife. Today, the district is lined with streetscape that includes banners and art that involve images from the heydays of the Black Metropolis.

### ***Chicago Housing Authority's Plan for Transformation (2000)***

Until 2002, Bronzeville was home to the highest concentration of public housing in country. This included four high-rise public housing developments: Ida B. Wells, Madden Park, Robert Taylor Homes, and Stateway Gardens. These housing developments, administered by the Chicago Housing Authority (CHA), were constructed between 1939 and 1970. Originally intended to serve as homes for war-industry workers and transitional housing for veterans and low-income residents, over time, as the jobs the migrants came to fill left the city, these developments became sites of concentrated poverty, violence, crime, and drugs. To combat these issues, the CHA developed the Plan for Transformation, a plan that aimed to "build and

strengthen communities by integrating public housing and its leaseholders into the larger social, economic, and physical fabric of Chicago.”<sup>2</sup>

The Plan for Transformation called for a new approach to public housing under the federal HOPE IV program. Public housing in Chicago was replaced with new mixed-income communities; which were to include a mix of CHA managed public housing units, and non-CHA affordable, and market-rate units. Public housing demolition began in 2002, removing over 10,000 public housing units in Bronzeville alone. As of 2012, 755 new CHA public housing units were built, along with nearly equal numbers of affordable and market-rate units, leaving Bronzeville with a less than a third of its original number of public housing units.

### ***Quad Communities Quality of Life Plan: Connecting Past, Present and Future (2005)***

The Quad Communities (Douglas, Grand Boulevard, Oakland, and North Kenwood), part of the greater Bronzeville, participated in the development of a Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) Quality of Life Plan in 2005 to improve the quality of life for existing residents, while balancing opportunities to welcome new residents. The plan’s many recommendations include: improved public safety, neighborhood beautification, and community infrastructure, as well as integrating arts, culture, and history into the community. The plan also saw a need to better coordinate local activities, calling for the creation of a neighborhood historical society and arts council to connect the plethora of existing groups engaged in local arts, culture, heritage tourism, and recreation – similar to the charge of the proposed coordinating entity.

### ***Cottage Grove Corridor Master Plan (2006)***

The Cottage Corridor Grove master plan was prepared in March 2006 by Chicago-based architecture firm Skidmore, Owings & Merrill. It was primarily an urban design study focused on a one-and-a-half mile stretch of Cottage Grove Avenue, from Pershing Road to 51<sup>st</sup> Street on Chicago’s South Side. The master plan was meant to serve as a guide for future development and to promote Cottage Grove Avenue as a premier retail destination focused on small and medium-sized businesses, especially around the existing assets along 47<sup>th</sup> Street. The plan called for an enhanced physical identity of the street and to encourage a more pedestrian-friendly environment.

### ***Cottage Grove Beautification Plan (2006)***

The Cottage Grove Beautification Plan was the product of a community led initiative to use place-making as a tool for economic growth. The plan hoped to create a distinctive identity for Cottage Grove Avenue, a major arterial in Bronzeville that is lined with both commercial and residential land uses. The goals of the plan were to establish an identity and character for Cottage Grove; raise awareness and preserve Bronzeville’s cultural assets; create a unique destination commercial corridor; and to use art to foster a sense of community between

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<sup>2</sup> See [http://www.thecha.org/pages/the\\_plan\\_for\\_transformation/22.php](http://www.thecha.org/pages/the_plan_for_transformation/22.php).

residents, business owners, and visitors. The result of this plan has led to a number of corridor beautification projects including light pole banners and murals.

### ***Cottage Grove Design and Streetscape Guidelines (2007)***

The Cottage Grove Design and Streetscape Guidelines were prepared in 2007 by Bauer Latoza Studio for the City of Chicago. The purpose of the guidelines was to create a framework for future development along Cottage Grove Avenue with the intention of rebuilding it into a vibrant corridor. The guidelines call for new development to reflect an understanding of the immediate site surroundings and the corridor's historic character. They also called for incorporating community identifiers into the overall design of the streetscape improvements to further enhance the appearance corridor.

### ***Re-Connecting Neighborhoods Plan (2009)***

This planning effort, led by the Metropolitan Planning Council (MPC), was funded through the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) as a response to the CHA's Plan for Transformation. Re-Connecting Neighborhoods' objective was to better connect communities affected by the Plan for Transformation by increasing access to public transportation and commercial services, along with improving the pedestrian environment. The plan calls for amending local zoning to encourage development and redevelopment of the Mid-South area (roughly Bronzeville), and was adopted by the Chicago Planning Commission in 2009.

Of particular relevance to proposed heritage area, Re-Connecting Neighborhoods recommends designing a gateway feature at Lake Shore Drive as a point of entry into Bronzeville. It also recommends better signage along the lakefront directing visitors into Bronzeville, improved lakefront access, and increased arts and recreation along key corridors. To-date, the point of entry sign has been established, clearly letting passers-by know they are in historic Bronzeville.

### ***Developing Vibrant Retail in Bronzeville: MPC Task Force Report (2012)***

This report was developed by MPC and CMAP at the request the Bronzeville Alliance, the report explores strategies for promoting retail development in Bronzeville. It advocates for historic preservation related to the community's history as a music mecca to increase tourism. To foster local retail, the plan supports the work of community organizations like Black Metropolis Convention and Tourism Council, the Bronzeville Tourism Visitor Information Center (BVIC), and the Partnership. The plan also encourages local businesses to promote cultural tourism as part of the larger retail development strategy.

### ***South Lakefront Corridor Transit Study (2013)***

The South Lakefront Corridor Transit Study was a community-initiated project funded by the City of Chicago to improve public transportation in the Chicago's South Side communities. The plan's goal is to identify improvements to public transportation, to enhance mobility for residents of the South Side, and to increase access to jobs. In addition to identifying gaps in the existing transportation network, the study identified two underserved areas as priority areas for improvement. One of the identified priority corridors is located in the heart of Bronzeville from Cottage Grove between 35<sup>th</sup> and 55<sup>th</sup> Streets. While funding for these transit improvements is

not available today, the report suggests that the Cottage Grove corridor should be further evaluated for bus rapid transit or streetcar potential.

### ***Chicago Neighborhoods Now (2013)***

Launched in March of 2013, the Chicago Neighborhoods Now is an initiative of the City of Chicago to improve seven neighborhoods, and includes: Englewood, Pullman, Rogers Park, Uptown, Little Village, Bronzeville, and the Eisenhower Corridor. This initiative seeks to coordinate public and private investment in an effort to spur local growth through economic development and quality-of-life improvements in the identified communities.

In Bronzeville, the Neighborhoods Now program kicked off with the development of a three-acre mixed-use project called the “Shops and Lofts” at 47<sup>th</sup> Street. This project includes a five-story, 72-unit residential building with 55,000 square feet of retail space to be occupied by a Wal-Mart Neighborhood Market. The Shops and Lofts project is part of nearly \$1 billion in goals for Bronzeville to include the entertainment-oriented revitalization of the Motor Row Historic District along South Michigan Avenue; and continued support for mixed-use redevelopment projects on 47th Street, such as the pending rehabilitation of Rosenwald Apartments and Bronzeville Artists’ Lofts.<sup>3</sup>

## **Illinois heritage areas**

In addition to looking at local planning efforts, it is important to understand the larger connections the proposed Black Metropolis heritage area has with existing heritage areas in Illinois. Presently, Illinois is home to two officially designated heritage areas, the Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area (ALNHA) and the Illinois & Michigan (I&M) Canal National Heritage Corridor. A third area, the Calumet National Heritage Area, described below, is in the process of becoming designated as a heritage area by NPS. Additionally, the Pullman community is seeking to become a national historical park, a designation that applies to collections of historic sites or buildings. If successful, Pullman would be the first national park in Chicago, and the second in Illinois.

The existing and proposed heritage areas, corridors, and national parks in Illinois each contribute to the story of the Great Migration. Lincoln played a critical role in ending slavery, while the I&M Canal helped make Chicago the powerhouse of industry in the 1900s. Both of these help illustrate the journey and decisions made by African-Americans as they moved to the North. The proposed Calumet heritage area and proposed Pullman national park build on these stories as well. Calumet was home to numerous steel companies which supplied jobs for migrants. Pullman porters assisted in the Great Migration by disseminating African-American news media that promoted jobs and opportunity in the North. A brief description of each area,

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<sup>3</sup>See

[http://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/mayor/press\\_room/press\\_releases/2013/april\\_2013/mayor\\_emanuel\\_celebratesgroundbreakingof47thstreetshopsandlofts.html](http://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/mayor/press_room/press_releases/2013/april_2013/mayor_emanuel_celebratesgroundbreakingof47thstreetshopsandlofts.html)



along with the location's significance to the Great Migration and Black Metropolis-Bronzeville community is included in this study.

### ***Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area (ALNHA)***

The only NHA named for a President, ALNHA is home to a unique collection of historical sites and stories. In this forty-two county NHA located in central Illinois, visitors can find the courthouses where Abraham Lincoln argued cases, log cabins, hotels, and homes where he entertained friends for more than 30 years. The cultural landscape provides insight into Lincoln's character and personal development, as he prepared to take office in the years leading up to the Civil War.

Lincoln's connections to Chicago are many, as the City was host to the Republican convention that nominated the President, as well as the site of Camp Douglas, a Civil War prisoner-of-war camp created by Presidential decree, located in the Black Metropolis. The President's connection to Chicago's African-American population and to the Great Migration story is also significant. The fact that the Lincoln hailed from Illinois served as a boon to local abolitionist efforts, culminating in 1862 with several Chicago churches, Bronzeville's Quinn Chapel among them, voting to send a delegation to plead with President Lincoln for emancipation. After Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation, the Great Migration can be viewed as the next step forward in what would be more than a century of Civil Rights progress.

### ***Calumet National Heritage Area***

In 1996, Representative Jerry Weller (R-IL) introduced the "Calumet Ecological Park Act of 1996" in the U.S. Congress. The Act passed and required the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of the feasibility of establishing a Calumet Ecological Park in the vicinity of Chicago, Illinois. NPS conducted this study and published its draft study in early 1997. NPS concluded that the area was suitable for consideration as a NHA, rather than an ecological park, allowing the area to be recognized for its significant historic, cultural, and economic features as well as its ecology. Besides the NHA option, the NPS study, completed in February 1998, proposed an alternative plan, calling for local control and management of the area's diverse assets, which would involve federal assistance or involvement on an as-needed basis only.

The proposed Calumet heritage area would work to protect the region between the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore and the I&M Canal National Heritage Corridor. The federal designation would assist the local community in preserving its native prairies, marshes and diverse wildlife along the Grand Calumet River, Little Calumet River, Cal-Sag Channel, and Lake Calumet.

The proposed heritage area would also allow the region to preserve, restore and celebrate its historical, cultural and economic features, including a unique industrial and labor history. The steelmaking industry thrived in southeast Chicago, and which continues to play a major role in Northwest Indiana's economy. With this industrial activity came significant developments in

the labor movement, and cultural influences of the populations who came to work in the steel mills.<sup>4</sup>

After Representative Weller proposed the ecological park, and the subsequent recommendation of an NHA designation among other options, the project has been delayed. The Representative did not put legislation forward for NHA approval. The reasons for this are several, but a major obstacle has been opposition to the project from citizens groups in Indiana, who may fear a loss of property rights. A group was formed to coordinate between the various stakeholders in Indiana and Illinois, the Calumet Heritage Partnership. The group continues to explore preservation in the Calumet region, gathering as recently as November 2012 to discuss preservation through an NHA designation or through other means.<sup>5</sup>

### ***Illinois & Michigan Canal National Heritage Corridor***

The I&M Canal is a 96-mile long man-made and hand-dug waterway stretching from Chicago to LaSalle, Illinois, which connects Lake Michigan to the Illinois River. The opening of the I&M Canal in 1848 contributed greatly to the growth of Chicago, and more broadly northern Illinois, producing a Midwestern metropolis and key commercial crossroads. The vision of the canal's commissioners was matched by innovation from citizens and businesses along its length, who patented agriculture and industrial innovations that relied on the newfound link between the two waterways. Illinois and Chicago's current prominence in the Midwest region is directly traceable to the canal.

The Illinois & Michigan Canal National Heritage Corridor, designated in 1984, was the first heritage corridor in the nation. The site of the origins of the I&M Canal, in Chicago's Bridgeport neighborhood, is a Chicago landmark. The Corridor covers 862 square miles, in a linear alignment along the canal's length, encompassing parts of 57 communities. The purpose of the I&M Canal Corridor is to retain, enhance, and interpret, for the benefit and inspiration of present and future generations, the cultural, historical, natural, recreational, and economic resources of the heritage corridor.

### ***Pullman National Historic Park (proposed)***

Built by railroad titan George Pullman, the Pullman neighborhood was among America's first "company towns." Pullman hired former slaves as porters on his trains to entice middle-class Americans with an upper-class experience on Pullman sleeper cars – by attending to passengers' every need with a smile. The Pullman porters played a major role in the dissemination of information about the opportunities in the north to African-Americans in the south. Pullman's massive railcar production lines produced the country's first African-American labor union – the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters. The factory also served as the focal point for a violent, two-month labor strike in 1894 that ultimately pushed public sentiment toward unions and government regulation of industry.

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<sup>4</sup> From Sierra Club Illinois.

<sup>5</sup> From [http://articles.chicagotribune.com/1999-10-24/news/9910240270\\_1\\_national-heritage-area-environmental-groups-calumet-region](http://articles.chicagotribune.com/1999-10-24/news/9910240270_1_national-heritage-area-environmental-groups-calumet-region).

The Historic Pullman Foundation, chartered in 1973, is focused on promoting preservation and lobbying for NHA designation efforts for the Pullman neighborhood of Chicago. Residents are hoping for a national park in order to ensure better protection of the area's historic sites, as well as to promote economic development and tourism. The Pullman area is on the National Register, a Chicago landmark historic district, and includes rows of attached worker housing, remaining factory and administration buildings, hotel, and stables, has been a National Historic Landmark since 1970. The State of Illinois has owned the hotel, and the factory and administration building, since 1991. State efforts have fallen short in regards to preservation and renovation of Pullman's sites, however. Legislation was introduced in 2012 asking for the NPS to conduct a feasibility study to assess the site's suitability for a national park designation. If approved, the site would be the first national park in Chicago and the second in Illinois, joining the Lincoln Home and surrounding neighborhood in Springfield.

## **African-American history and experience as told through NHAs**

Equally important to the story of Chicago's Black Metropolis are the stories of the communities from which migrants came. The majority of Chicago's migrants came from southern states such as Alabama, Georgia, and Mississippi; with them came family traditions and culture, which heavily influenced the formation of the Black Metropolis. Today, there are a number of nationally designated heritage areas, and communities seeking NHA designation, whose stories collectively tell the important history of African-Americans in our country.

Some African-American communities in southern states were decimated as Blacks migrated north. The interpretation of these stories has been preserved through the NHA designation. Four established NHAs, and one heritage area presently seeking designation, are most closely related to the story of the Black Metropolis. They include the following:

1. Alabama Black Belt heritage area<sup>6</sup>
2. Gullah Geechee National Heritage Corridor
3. Mississippi Delta National Heritage Area
4. Mississippi Hills National Heritage Area
5. Detroit's MotorCities National Heritage Area

### ***Alabama Black Belt heritage area***

The Alabama Black Belt heritage area organization is presently seeking Congressional designation as a NHA. Stretching across the lower-central portion of Alabama, from the Mississippi to the Georgia border, the 19 counties of the proposed heritage area sustain an abundance of natural resources, historical roots, cultural diversity, and recreational activities. Part of a larger southern Black Belt, stretching from Texas to Virginia, the term Black Belt

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<sup>6</sup> The Alabama Black Belt heritage area is presently seeking official NHA designation.

originally described the areas' dark, rich soil – making it an ideal home for cotton plantations. Eventually “Black Belt” would describe not only the characteristics of the land, but would be indicative of the African-Americans who lived and worked there. The Black Belt is the beginning of the Great Migration story for hundreds of thousands of African-Americans who migrated from this area to points north, including Chicago. Moreover, Alabama’s rich, agricultural region formed the cultural traits, ranging from culinary practices to linguistic styles that migrants brought with them on their journeys.

### ***Gullah Geechee National Heritage Corridor***

The Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor was designated a NHA by an act of Congress on October 12, 2006. The corridor encompasses a unique cultural and linguistic area along the southeastern coast of the United States, from the northern border of Pender County, North Carolina to the southern border of St. Johns County, Florida, stretching 30 miles inland. The land mass of this area includes the coastal plain and 79 barrier islands that hug the coast, and encompass approximately 12,818 square miles, an area larger than the states of Maryland and Delaware combined.

The Gullah Geechee people have been able to preserve much of their African cultural heritage because of geography, climate, and the circumstances of the slave trade. By the middle of the 18th century, the South Carolina and Georgia low-country was covered by thousands of acres of rice fields. Captive African farmers from the “Rice Coast” brought the skills for cultivation and tidal irrigation that made rice one of the most successful industries in early America. Because of previous exposure to diseases such as malaria and yellow fever, African captives also brought some immunity to lowland diseases, allowing their population to grow at higher rates than Whites who were more susceptible. Fear of disease eventually drove many White planters to leave the area altogether, entrusting their plantations to African overseers. The physical isolation of the Gullah Geechee region, composed primarily of barrier islands and lowland swamps, further contributed to the independent formation of Gullah culture. The resulting tradition was quite different from that of slaves in states like Virginia and North Carolina, who generally lived in smaller settlements and had more sustained and frequent interactions with Whites.

Despite its isolation, the Gullah Geechee region played an important role in the Great Migration story, with much of its population moving north in search of work and opportunity. Gullah Geechee migrants included some who would make their name in Chicago, notably Robert S. Abbott, the founder of the *Chicago Defender*. Abbott was born in St. Simons Island, Georgia to former slave parents. He would move to Chicago in the late 1890s, founding the *Defender* in 1905. Other examples include First Lady Michelle Obama, whose great-great-grandfather, Jim Robinson, was enslaved on Friendfield Plantation in Georgetown, South Carolina. Relatives of Mrs. Obama still live in the Georgetown area. Gullah ancestry was depicted in the Michelle Obama Story Quilt, created by a low-country craftswoman and displayed at the Smithsonian during the 2009 Presidential inauguration.



### ***Mississippi Delta National Heritage Area***

Established and signed in to law by President Obama in 2009, the Mississippi Delta National Heritage Area describes the Delta as “the land where the Blues began, where Rock and Roll was created and where Gospel remains a vibrant art. It is an agricultural region where cotton was once king, and where “precision-ag” rules today. It is a place that saw the struggles of the Civil War and the cultural revolution of the Civil Rights Movement. It is the home of the Great Migration, and a land of rich culinary, religious, artistic and literary heritage.”<sup>7</sup> Not only does the Mississippi Delta have a cultural connection to Chicago, it also has a physical connection to Chicago’s African-American community. The Illinois Central railroad, with direct service from Chicago, through Mississippi, to New Orleans brought thousands of migrants north during the Great Migration. Gospel, jazz, Delta blues, and soul food were the cultural transplants that accompanied migrants to their new homes, and have become hallmarks of national African-American culture.

### ***Mississippi Hills National Heritage Area***

Despite the rich agricultural land and dense forest of the Mississippi Hills region, a 100-mile wide area in Northern Mississippi, the Mississippi Hills National Heritage Area primarily promotes the region’s artistic and civic bounty. Also designated in 2009, the Mississippi Hills NHA shares a special connection to the Black Metropolis and the Great Migration story in that it was also the home to many renowned civil rights figures. Ida B. Wells, who battled lynching in the deep-South before moving to Chicago, hails from this area. Among the many great musicians that made their home in Chicago, those hailing from Mississippi include Chess Records great Howlin’ Wolf, blues legends Muddy Waters and Koko Taylor, jazz legends galore, and more recently television celebrity Oprah Winfrey.

### ***MotorCities National Heritage Area***

The MotorCities National Heritage Area was designated by Congress in 1998 to preserve, interpret, and promote Michigan’s rich automotive and labor heritage. Upon the interpretive foundation provided by the automotive industry, MotorCities explores important stories relating to automobile manufacturing, American labor, the strengthening of the middle class, and the Civil Rights movement. Critical to the growth of the automotive industry, and to neighboring cities, were African-American migrants. Arriving as part of the same Great Migration that transformed Chicago, Detroit’s newcomers would have many similar experiences. African-Americans employed in the automotive industry would play important roles in the national labor and civil rights movements.

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<sup>7</sup> See <http://www.msdelataheritage.com/about-the-mdnha.html>.

## Public involvement strategy

The Commission developed a communications plan and public involvement strategy at the outset of this project. Four goals were developed to ensure the public's participation in the development of the feasibility study, and ultimately the heritage area plans. These goals are as follows:

1. To promote public understanding of the study and its process.
2. To maximize participation and contributions of interested and affected organizations and individuals.
3. To assess public support for designation.
4. To assess capacity and commitment of local entities and individuals to the program and to the protection of the heritage area.

Once goals were in place, the project advisory committee participated in stakeholder identification, developed a list of appropriate venues and events to reach stakeholders, engaged local residents in community conversations, engaged local media in heritage area efforts, and has been working to implement the Great Migration Centennial events. A detailed public involvement strategy can be found in Appendix 2.

## Steps to be undertaken at the conclusion of the study

This feasibility study has been developed with local capacity, and unlike when Congress authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to conduct the study, the final step in this study process is to transmit the feasibility study to the NPS. Before that occurs, however, it is recommended that the Commission reconvene its full membership to bring them up-to-date on the feasibility study process. The PAC should work together with Commission members to take the draft study back out to the community to engage them on the study's findings. The Commission should begin to campaign their existing base for letters of support for inclusion in the transmittal of the study to NPS. As a resource for this process, Appendix 4 contains draft letters of support for the proposed heritage area's designation. At the same time, the opportunity to promote and foster new partnerships should continue as the Commission and the State of Illinois plan for the Great Migration Centennial: 1916-2016.

In the near-term, the Commission should consider lobbying to have the proposed NHA boundary designated as a National Historic Landmark District,<sup>8</sup> either through NPS or in partnership with the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency.<sup>9</sup> This designation would assist in galvanizing additional support for the Black Metropolis; and the designation would help to solidify the historic significance of the study area. It is clear that there are a significant number of historic assets located within the proposed study boundary. The preservation of the

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<sup>8</sup> See <http://www.nps.gov/history/nhl/tutorial/About/About1.htm>.

<sup>9</sup> See <http://www.illinoishistory.gov/>.

combined assets of the community is critical to the local landscape that physically illustrates the Black Metropolis and America's Great Migration.

Lastly, based upon feedback from NPS and other designated heritage areas, it is recommended that the Commission explore opportunities to partner with NHAAs across the country. Specifically, the Commission should focus on engaging heritage areas that have direct ties to Chicago's Black Metropolis and the history of African-Americans in the U.S. The complete story of the Great Migration from start to present day is an integral part of our nation's heritage. While other designated heritage areas tell pieces of the story of African-Americans, this particular American story has the potential to be told over the course of the quintessential American road trip across the U.S.



## Chapter 2: Study Area History and Contributions

*"In 1929, my mother put all three of us on her hip and came north because she had a sister and two brothers that had already left Mississippi and had been writing her constantly about the improvements in the quality of life for Black people in Chicago... I didn't know it when I was kid, but when I look back at what decisions my mother had to make at only eighteen years of age to take herself and her three children and come up here to Chicago—that took great courage!"*

*-- George Johnson, Founder of Johnson Products (the first African-American-owned company listed on the American Stock Exchange), Bridges of Memory: Chicago's First Wave of Black Migration*

Some 45 years following the enactment of the 13th Amendment, which abolished slavery in 1865, six million African-Americans chose to migrate from the South to the North in pursuit of educational and work opportunities. Some African-Americans were able to plan ahead for their departure, while others left with just the clothes on their backs. This collective journey was called the Great Migration.

**Figure 1. A family arrives in Chicago in 1920<sup>1</sup>**



The first wave of the Great Migration occurred from 1915-18, during World War I. However, migrants continued to move to the north at an increased rate through 1930.<sup>2</sup> During this time period, African-Americans left their home states of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, east Texas, and Virginia, seeking to create a new life in the North. Tens of thousands of migrants settled on the South Side of Chicago in an area that would grow to be seven miles long and one-and-a-half miles wide.

Known locally as the Black Belt, 78 percent of Chicago's African-Americans lived in this area during the Great Migration.

Upon arrival in the North, the only option was for African-Americans to create a self-sufficient community. This story is not atypical of the American migrant experience; it is a story that defines many of Chicago's ethnic neighborhoods. The Black Belt would become more than just

<sup>1</sup> Image from [http://blog.al.com/live/2013/06/mobile\\_press-register\\_200th\\_an\\_19.html](http://blog.al.com/live/2013/06/mobile_press-register_200th_an_19.html).

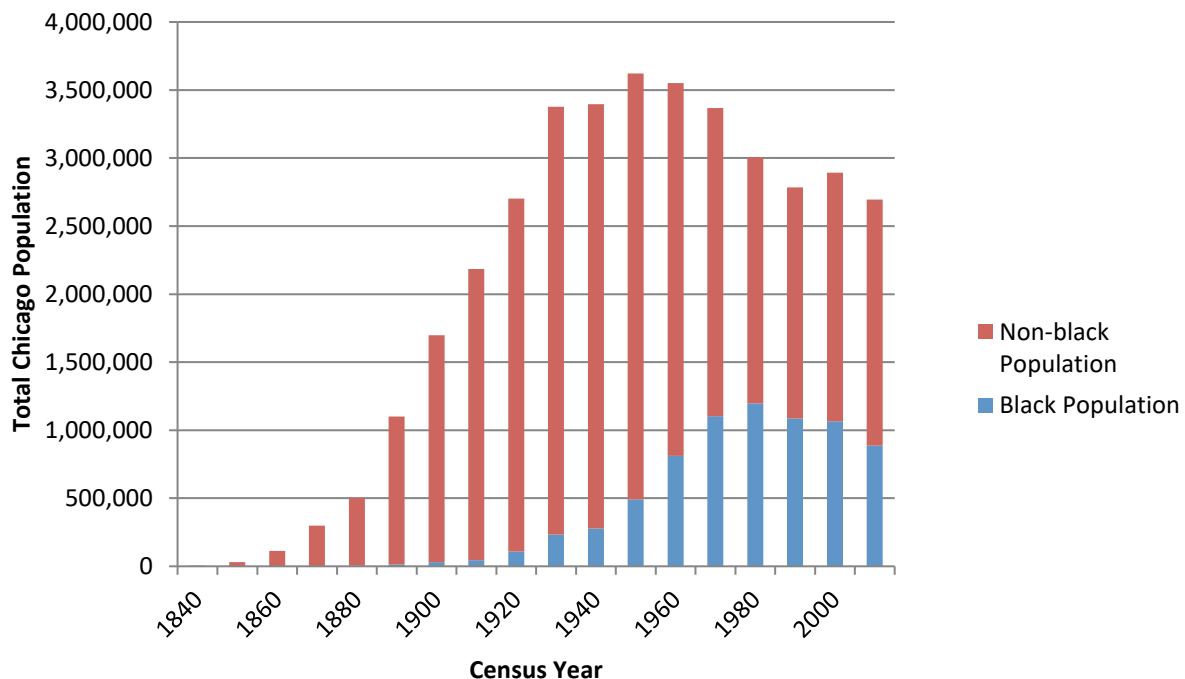
<sup>2</sup> Emmett J. Scott, *Negro Migration during the War*. Arno Press. New York, 1969.



a self-sufficient African-American community – it would birth Chicago’s Black Metropolis, a modern metropolis with many of the luxuries and conveniences commonly known to whites. Moreover, the Black Metropolis represented a place of opportunity and would become a destination for Blacks, a place where they did not have to live in repression anymore. By 1930 the Black Metropolis would establish itself formally as Bronzeville. The name was coined by James Gentry, a writer for the Chicago Defender Newspaper, who felt as though the name Bronzeville better reflected the skin color of African-Americans living in the community.

The Black Metropolis rivals Harlem in African-American contributions to music, arts, culture, and business and entrepreneurial pursuits. Built by some of the most ambitious and dynamic African-Americans in Chicago’s history, the Black Metropolis story is made up of thousands of individual’s stories and experiences that have forever shaped the history of Chicago and the nation. References for the history section can be found in **Error! Reference source not found..**

**Figure 2. Chicago's African-American Population 1840-2010 (U.S. Census Bureau)**



## Chicago in the 1800s: A Historic Black presence

Although the Great Migration was the definitive event in Chicago’s rise to prominence in Black culture, African-Americans have played a prominent role in the City’s development since the 18<sup>th</sup> Century. In fact, Chicago’s first settler was a Haitian man of African and French descent, Jean Baptiste Point DuSable, who may have settled in the area as early as 1779.

In the antebellum period, before slavery was outlawed, Chicago was an important center of abolitionist activity and a stop on the Underground Railroad, the system of routes and way

stations that helped escaped slaves reach freedom in Canada. Bronzeville's churches, including First Congregational Church (birthed out of First Presbyterian Church of Chicago), Olivet Baptist and Quinn Chapel AME served as stations, with congregants opening their homes and businesses to those moving north. Many of the Chicagoans involved were themselves free Blacks or fugitive slaves, part of a small but growing local Black community. John Jones, a tailor, and his wife, Mary Jane Richardson Jones, headed anti-slavery efforts within the City in the mid-1800s, helping hundreds of escaped slaves on their way to Canada from their house on Dearborn Street. Mary was born a free Black in Tennessee, while John was born in North Carolina to a free, mixed-race mother and a father of German descent. The family often served as a link between self-emancipated slaves and white abolitionists.

By 1860, Chicago's Black population approached 1,000. While conditions in Chicago were certainly preferable to those in the South, Black Chicagoans experienced a great deal of hostility in their daily lives. As in other parts of the country, their civil and human rights were severely limited by local laws, referred to as the "Black Laws," which enforced segregation and prohibited Blacks from voting, testifying in courts against whites, and from gathering in groups of more than three. Blacks living in Illinois were required to carry a Certificate of Freedom, otherwise, they were presumed to be slaves. An 1847 revision of these statutes forbade free Blacks from settling in Illinois. Black Laws were enforced, often by locals, making life in Chicago treacherous for Blacks.

Even so, the City's Black population was growing, rising from 4,000 in 1870 to 16,000 in 1890. During the late 1800s, Chicago's Black residents were mostly domestic workers and manual laborers. However, there was a small, but growing, representation of middle- and upper-class professionals. In 1872, Chicago appointed its first Black police officer. At the time, Black officers were assigned to duty in primarily in African-American neighborhoods without uniforms. In 1873, Chicago hired its first Black firefighter, William Watkins. The city's first black firemen were organized the same year, 1872, as the first policemen.

One of Chicago's upper-class Black professionals was Dr. Daniel Hale Williams. Born in Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania, Dr. Williams eventually relocated to Janesville, Wisconsin to study under a white doctor before entering the Chicago Medical School (known today as Northwestern University Medical School). After completing medical school, Dr. Williams opened his own medical office; he was one of three Black physicians in Chicago, known for his professionalism and advanced medical credentials. Dr. Williams was appointed to the Illinois State Board of Health (known as the Illinois Department of Public Health) and influenced many modern medical standards and hospital rules.

In 1891, Dr. Williams founded Provident Hospital and Training School Association, at 29th and Dearborn Streets, with a mission to train Black doctors and nurses who were denied training at most other institutions. Dr. Williams' outstanding leadership and commitment to the highest standards concerning procedures and sanitary conditions led the hospital to have an 87 percent success rate during its first year. At Provident, doctors and nurses of all races worked side-by-

side to serve Black residents who were refused care at other medical institutions, making Provident Hospital the first interracial hospital to exist in the nation. It was at Provident Hospital where Dr. Williams performed the first open heart surgery in 1893. This procedure which was a great risk given the infection that could have occurred, set standards for internal surgeries practiced throughout the world.

Today Provident Hospital continues to provide quality health care to the medically underserved. Despite its bankruptcy and closure in 1987, Provident reopened in 1990 as part of the Cook County Health and Hospitals System, one of the largest comprehensive health systems in the country. It continues to serve the health needs of the community.

Other professional African-Americans who settled in and impacted the Black Metropolis include Ferdinand L. Barnett. Born in Nashville, but reared in Michigan before arriving in Chicago in 1869, Ferdinand L. Barnett was a graduate of Chicago's College of Law at Northwestern University affiliated Law School (which also produced the first Black female Cook County Public Defender, Rita Fry). Originally, from Nashville, Tennessee, and son of a former slave who purchased his own freedom, Barnett established Chicago's first Black newspaper, the Chicago Conservator, in 1878. Barnett used the Conservator to advocate for racial equality and justice and he would later go on to become the first Black Assistant State's Attorney.

**Figure 3. Ida B. Wells<sup>3</sup>**



In 1893, Barnett would meet, and eventually marry, southern activist and journalist Ida B. Wells. Originally from Holly Springs, Mississippi, Wells' pioneering work to document lynching led to a national campaign against the practice. Wells came to Chicago with Fredrick Douglass to organize a boycott of the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition. The Columbian Exposition took place over a 179-day period starting May 1, 1893. Although Blacks were welcomed as attendees, they were not allowed to be a part of the planning for the Columbian Exposition, and therefore underrepresented in the exhibits. In protest, Barnett and Wells wrote

sections of a pamphlet called *The Reason Why the Colored American Is Not in the World's Columbian Exposition*, which highlighted the exclusion of Black achievement at the Columbian Exposition and detailed the tremendous progress of Black Americans.

Ida B. Wells would become an important figure in voting rights, marching in 1913 for universal suffrage in Washington, D.C. Wells would also become instrumental in creating social services for Chicago's Black residents. She founded the Negro Fellowship League on Chicago's South Side, a place where southern migrants could receive assistance. She created the Alpha Suffrage

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<sup>3</sup> Image from <http://www.biography.com/people/ida-b-wells-9527635>.

Club, which played a critical role in electing Oscar De Priest as Chicago's first Black Alderman in 1915. She would also play a key role in the 1909 National Negro Conference, which evolved into the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). Just a year later the first branch of NAACP organized in Chicago. In its first 50 years, this organization fought against housing discrimination in Chicago, which led to the victory in 1940 in *Hansberry v. Lee*, which declared a single neighborhood's restrictive covenants unconstitutional. Within a decade, all restrictive covenants were invalidated under the US Supreme Court ruling in *Shelley vs. Kraemer* (1964). The Chicago branch of NAACP also took a stand against de facto segregation and for fair employment practices legislation. In 1930, Ida B. Wells ran for the Illinois State legislature, which made her one of the first Black women to run for public office in the United States.

Chicago's small but dynamic and stable Black presence in the 1800s ultimately laid the groundwork for what would become a thriving community throughout the beginning of the 20th Century.

## **Early 1900s: The Great Migration makes its way to Chicago**

There were a number of strong motives fueling the Great Migration. First, although slavery was no longer legal, Jim Crow laws and Black Codes constrained life for Blacks in the South through sharecropping and debt peonage. Jim Crow encouraged a "separate but equal" status for Blacks. Under Jim Crow, one of the few economic outlets available to Blacks was sharecropping. This meant that in exchange for food, seeds, tools, shelter, and use of the land, tenant farmers would pay white landowners with the fruits of their labor instead of currency. When payment was due, landowners often claimed that sharecroppers had insufficient funds or crops to pay with, thus, it became impossible for Blacks to get ahead. Sharecropping was essentially neo-slavery in the South's post-slavery economy. When combined with floods, crop infestation and intimidation, Blacks had little opportunity for economic advancement in the South.

As WWI unfolded, industrialization and acute labor shortages fueled migration northward. Southern Blacks were viewed as a cheap and available labor pool ready to meet the demand for Chicago's growing meat packing and steel industries. In response to labor strikes, industry management exploited the fears and prejudices of Chicago's ethnic populations and labor unions by publicizing the fact that they were hiring Black workers. Recruiting agents would travel to the South, persuading Black men to work in northern slaughter houses and steel mills. Industries pitted Blacks against whites as part of a union-busting strategy developed by industry management. This strategy worked in part because the media focused on race, failing to document the aggressive recruiting strategy that brought Black workers to Chicago.

A direct result of this union busting strategy was that Blacks became an integral part of the new northern labor force. Increasing numbers of Black migrants moved north as word spread about



life in Chicago and other northern cities. Migrants who sent letters home to relatives described Chicago as a place of opportunity, a place with plentiful jobs, music, and nightlife. These correspondences enticed relatives to follow the Mississippi Valley north on the trains of the Illinois Central Railroad and constituted what is known as the migration chain.

## Life in the Black Metropolis: 1910-1930

Blacks who migrated to Chicago during the first wave of the Great Migration, created a city within a city – a Black Metropolis. During this time, the Black Metropolis was a mecca of African-American business, arts and culture, politics, and more. Many firsts were birthed in the Black Metropolis, along with countless African-American achievements. This section highlights key elements that played an important role in the Black Metropolis' heyday.

### ***Journalism***

Founded by Robert S. Abbott in 1905, the Chicago Defender offered daily news coverage to both the local and regional African-American community, advocating for justice and increased civil rights. Abbott was a migrant from St. Simons Island, Georgia who settled in Chicago in the late 1800s. The Defender helped make Abbott one of the first Black millionaires. He built the Defender's distribution network around Chicago's railroads, including the Illinois Central Railroad.

The Illinois Central served as more than just a mode of escape to the North; for those who remained in the South, the railroad was a critical link to information about relatives and opportunity. Pullman porters were key messengers, smuggling newspapers like the Defender from Chicago and catalogues from Sears and Roebuck.

**Figure 4. Pullman Porters<sup>4</sup>**



The Chicago Defender campaigned endlessly, encouraging Blacks to leave behind the racism of the South and be a part of the migration that was shaping Chicago. Abbott treated migration stories and stories of Southern racial injustice as front page news. The Defender advertised plentiful housing and listed numerous jobs for those wishing to escape the oppression of the South, it was also the first newspaper to incorporate a full entertainment section, describing Chicago's many cultural highlights. Chicago was portrayed as a lively city where it was commonplace for Blacks to go out to the theater, dine at fancy restaurants, and attend sporting events. The Defender even devised a campaign for a Great Northern Drive Day on May 15, 1917, a day when Blacks were urged to move north en masse.

<sup>4</sup> Image from <http://www.afro.com/sections/news/Washington/istory.htm?storyid=77007>.

Abbott's commitment to Chicago's Black community continued to expand over time. One of the many social issues Abbott believed in was expanding opportunities for the disadvantaged, especially youth. In 1923, Abbott and his managing editor Luicius Harper created a youth-focused section of the Defender—the Bud Billiken Club – named after a Chinese mythical figure, a Billiken, the guardian angel of children. Young Black males across the nation signed up to become members of the Bud Billiken Club. It was such a success that Abbott wanted to thank the members of the Club and the newsboys who sold the Defender on Chicago street corners, with a parade. The first Bud Billiken parade was held on August 11, 1929, and gave youth an opportunity to showcase their talents and celebrate their participation in the Defender's success.

The Defender boomed during its early years. In 1915, its circulation was 16,000, by 1918 it was 125,000, and by the early 1920s circulation was over 200,000. Nearly two-thirds of the Defender's readers came from outside of Chicago. Eventually, the Defender would become known as "America's Black Newspaper." The Defender wasn't the only Black newspaper that came to be in the Black Metropolis. Soon the local competition would heat up and the Chicago Bee would emerge as an alternative to the Defender, and Chicago would become known as a national center of Black journalism.

The burgeoning Black news industry in Chicago opened the door for other journalist entrepreneurs. In 1919, Claude A. Barnett established the Associated Negro Press (ANP). The ANP worked much like today's Associated Press, collecting news of interest to the Black community and syndicating articles to Black newspapers throughout the nation. The ANP helped to advance a national conversation on the many issues plaguing the Black community, including voting rights, desegregation of the armed forces, housing, and equal access for Black journalists. Besides its Bronzeville headquarters, the ANP had offices in Atlanta, Boston, Kansas City, New Orleans, and New York.

Abbott and his work with the Chicago Defender laid the foundation for media mogul John H. Johnson. Originally from Arkansas City, Arkansas, Johnson created Johnson Publishing Company, the largest Black-owned and operated publishing company in the world. Johnson's magazines, beginning with Negro Digest in 1942, followed by Ebony and Jet, started in 1945

**Figure 5. Newsboy for the Chicago Defender<sup>5</sup>**



<sup>5</sup> Image from [http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Newsboy\\_selling\\_the\\_Chicago\\_Defender.png](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Newsboy_selling_the_Chicago_Defender.png).

and 1951, respectively, became staples in African-American homes. Much of Johnson's success came from his ability to convince top American companies that it was in their economic interest to reach the African-American market, and that his publications were the way to do so. Johnson's success led him to be the first African-American to own a building in downtown Chicago on Michigan Avenue. He was also the first African American to appear on Forbes' annual rankings of the wealthiest Americans. Johnson Publishing Company's Ebony Fashion Fair, which began as a small fundraiser for a New Orleans Hospital, grew to be the country's largest traveling fashion show, lasting 50 years and raising more than \$50 million for charities from New York to Mississippi.

### ***Business and entrepreneurial pursuits***

With growing prosperity and little support from Chicago's white business establishment, Blacks established their own financial center in the heart of the Black Metropolis at 35<sup>th</sup> and State Streets. Coined as Black Wall Street, Blacks were able to deposit their earnings, open savings accounts, and access mortgages and business loans for the first time (although access to capital outside the community continued to be limited by larger racist financial practices). The opportunity to participate in the financial realm was due in large part to two Black entrepreneurs – Jesse Binga and Anthony Overton – who laid much of the financial and economic foundation of the Black Metropolis.

**Figure 6. Jesse Binga Overton's Arcade Building<sup>6</sup>**



One of the Black Metropolis' most successful financial institutions was the Binga Bank, Chicago's first Black-owned financial institution. Originally from Detroit, having come to Chicago to attend the 1893 World's Fair, Jesse Binga saw opportunity in Chicago and never looked back. He began his career in the real estate business with ten dollars, purchasing homes from Whites (who wanted to move away from the growing Black Belt), refurbished them, and sold them to Blacks who were eager to own property for the first time. Binga would eventually buy an entire block—known as the Binga Block—on State Street between 47th and 48th Streets. Binga Block featured a number of Black-owned businesses, including: a barbershop, beauty parlor, fish market, florist, milliner, pharmacy, photographer, and a tailor.

<sup>6</sup> Image from <http://www.wttw.com/main.taf?p=76,4,4,9#blackbusiness>.

Binga opened his bank, using the money he earned in real estate, to further support the Black community's desire to own their property; Binga Bank immediately began providing loans to homebuyers. By the mid-1920s, Binga Bank was one of the nation's largest Black-owned financial institutions with assets totaling more than \$1 million. Binga set the stage for future economic development throughout the Black Metropolis and Chicago. After Binga, a number of Black-owned banks opened, establishing a Black banking dynasty that included: Douglass National Bank, Illinois Federal Savings and Loan, Service Federal Savings, Independence Bank, Seaway National Bank, and Highland Community Bank.

Another prominent entrepreneur of Black Wall Street was Louisiana native, and son of freed slaves, Anthony Overton. With a strong commitment to racial advancement, Overton earned a law degree, served as a municipal judge, and built an economic empire in the Black Metropolis. His primary business, the Overton Hygienic Company, was a cosmetics firm. Overton became the first Black cosmetics company to have products on the shelves at Woolworth drug stores. Later, Overton would found The Half Century Magazine and the Chicago Bee newspaper (a direct competitor to the Chicago Defender), Douglass Bank, and Victory Life Insurance Company. Overton vowed to build his companies by employing only Blacks – a proud stance against the white business establishment, pushing forward civil rights and employment opportunity for Blacks. Together the Binga and Overton empires met the needs of Black Metropolis residents, from jobs, to offering the goods and services that were necessary for everyday life in the City.

While the insurance industry wasn't founded in Chicago, Chicago's Black Metropolis was home to a number of Black-owned life insurance companies during this time, including: Supreme Liberty Life Insurance Company, founded by Arkansas native Frank Gillespie; Victory Life Insurance Company, part of the Overton Empire; and the Chicago Metropolitan Mutual Assurance Company. Black-owned insurance companies were one of the few sources of white-collar jobs open to Blacks at the time.

In addition to banking, insurance, and real estate, there were a growing number of professional service jobs in the Black Metropolis. Illinois' first licensed Black architect was Walter T. Bailey. Born in Kewanee, Illinois, Bailey earned his architectural engineering degree at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Early in his career, Bailey was appointed head of the Tuskegee Institute's Mechanical Industries Department and supervised the architectural and planning of a number of the Institute's campus buildings. The Tuskegee Institute attracted many talented Black architects because of the opportunity the Institute gave them to both teach and practice the profession.

In 1924, the Black-order of the Knights of Pythias, a fraternal organization committed to charitable works, commissioned Bailey to design its international headquarters in Chicago. The National Knights of Pythias Temple was completed between 1927 and 1928. Located at 37<sup>th</sup> and State Streets, the Temple stood eight stories high – towering over other buildings in the area. At the time, the Pythias Temple was regarded as the largest and most expensive building built and



designed by a Black American. Bailey's work on the Pythias Temple jumpstarted his architectural career in Chicago.

Working closely with Bailey on the Temple, was another Black architectural engineer, Charles Sumner Duke. Born in Selma Alabama in 1879, Duke was one of a handful of Blacks to attend and/or graduate numerous outstanding academic institutions, including Phillips Exeter, a prestigious private preparatory school in Exeter, New Hampshire in 1901; Harvard University (Bachelor of Arts degree in mathematics); and University of Wisconsin (Master of Science degree in civil engineering in 1913). Duke was also founder of the National Technical Association, the first professional organization for African-American scientists and engineers.

## ***Religion and Social Services***

**Figure 7. Pilgrim Baptist Church<sup>7</sup>**



Religious institutions that previously played an instrumental role in the Underground Railroad continued to play an influential role in the Black Metropolis by providing much needed housing, job training, and social services for migrants. Churches like Olivet Baptist, Quinn Chapel African Methodist Episcopal, and Pilgrim Baptist, each assisted in sustaining the Black Metropolis by encouraging congregants to support Black Wall Street and patronize local businesses in an effort to improve economic conditions for Blacks in Chicago.

Olivet Baptist Church, the oldest Black Baptist Church in Chicago, boasted a congregation that was estimated at 10,000 strong in 1920. Olivet played a major role in the Great Migration through their advertisements in the Chicago Defender and promise to assist new migrants with jobs and housing. A number of Olivet's pastors were heavily involved in local politics and civil rights advocacy.

Quinn Chapel African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church, a station on the Underground Railroad, was instrumental in the founding of Dr. Williams' Provident Hospital. Quinn Chapel AME's pulpit has been graced with notables such as Presidents William B. McKinley, William Howard Taft, and Barack Obama; educators George Washington Carver and Booker T. Washington; poet and writer Paul Lawrence Dunbar; and Reverend Martin Luther King, Sr., Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Reverend and civil rights leader Adam Clayton Powell, Jr.

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<sup>7</sup> Image from [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Pilgrim\\_Baptist\\_HABS\\_ILL-1054.jpg](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Pilgrim_Baptist_HABS_ILL-1054.jpg).

Also important to the Black Metropolis was Pilgrim Baptist Church. Designed by the 1893 World's Fair Columbian Exhibition architects Dankmar Adler and Louis Sullivan, and organized in 1917, Pilgrim Baptist Church is known as the birthplace of modern gospel music. The Church's music director Thomas A. Dorsey, from Villa Rica, Georgia, is credited as the "father of gospel music." Numerous singers have shared their gift of gospel song at Pilgrim Baptist, including James Cleveland, Aretha Franklin, The Edwin Hawkins Singers, Mahalia Jackson, Sallie Martin, The Staple Singers, and Albertina Walker.

Complementary to local churches' assistance was a variety of social services-based organizations. The Wabash Avenue Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA), the Metropolitan Community Center, the Chicago Urban League, and Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA), each offered a variety of assistance to newcomers. Services included temporary housing, home-cooked meals, instructional classes, and recreational opportunities. These organizations also assisted with employment, child welfare, workers' rights and race relations, as well as bible study, cooking, dramatics, and stenography. In 1915, Carter G. Woodson, known as "the father of Black History" founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History at the Wabash Avenue YMCA. Eleven years later in 1926, Woodson would create Negro History Week (now Black History Month).

### **Politics**

The spread of African-American influence outside of Chicago's Black Belt gave the community greater influence in local and regional matters. The Black voting block became a formidable political force, and an integral part of the politics controlling Chicago and Illinois. During this period, the Black community steadily increased its influence in local and statewide politics, beginning with representation on the city council, and then on to the county board of commissioners, and eventually state and national legislative posts.

In 1915, residents elected two Black Americans to represent the City's Second Ward. Republican Oscar DePriest, an Alabama native, was elected Second Ward Alderman, and Edward H. Wright (originally from New York) was elected Second Ward Committeeman. Together the two formed a formidable political tandem, with an agenda focused on giving a voice to Chicago's Black community.

Shortly thereafter, in 1917, DePriest founded the Black political organization called the People's Movement Club. By 1928, the People's Movement Club was powerful political operation, which held its meetings in the Black Metropolis at Unity Hall. The Club helped make DePriest the first African-American elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from a northern state and forced politicians to recognize Chicago's Black voting block. DePriest would serve three terms in Congress, speaking out against discrimination, introducing anti-lynching bills, and laying a foundation for future Black politicians to follow in his footsteps.

**Figure 8. Oscar DePriest<sup>8</sup>**



DePriest would eventually lose his seat to another Alabama-born Chicagoan, Arthur Mitchell, who, in 1934, became the first Black Democrat to hold this seat. Consistent with the wishes of the residents of the Black Metropolis, and as a direct result of his experience of being forced to move to a segregated railcar on the Illinois Central Railroad upon crossing into Arkansas, Mitchell introduced a number of bills to ban lynching and discrimination.

Following Mitchell was Georgia native, William L. Dawson. Dawson previously held the Second Ward Aldermanic seat before moving on to Congress in 1943, where he remained for 27 years. A graduate of Northwestern University Law School, Dawson began his political career as a member of the Republican Party in the 1920s as the State Central Committeeman for the First Congressional District of Illinois. Dawson moved to the Democratic Party in the 1930s, and was elected Alderman for the Second Ward of Chicago from 1933 until 1939, and served as the Democratic Party committeeman after 1939. Dawson was elected to the Seventy-eighth Congress, and thirteen succeeding terms, serving from January 3, 1943, until his death in 1970.

In addition to becoming the first African-American to chair a House committee – the Committee on Expenditures in Executive Departments – and influencing national policy throughout his life, Dawson served as a mentor for rising young Black politicians in Chicago, helping with their elections and federal appointments. One of Dawson’s mentees was Ralph Metcalfe. Metcalfe returned to Chicago after serving in WWII and representing the U.S. in the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin, and was elected Committeeman and Alderman for Chicago’s Third Ward. In 1970, Metcalfe succeeded Dawson, his mentor, winning a seat in the Ninety-second U.S. Congress.

### ***Music, Arts and Culture***

While art in all forms permeated the Black Metropolis, its most important legacy may be its contribution to American music. Fronted by jazz clubs such as Dreamland Café, Palm Tavern, Royal Gardens Café, the Sunset, the Savoy, and the Plantation, the Black Metropolis became one of the world’s jazz capitals, with The Stroll (State Street) as its backdrop. It was typical to find local luminaries such as the Defender’s Robert Abbott or Jack Johnson, the first Black heavyweight boxing champion and owner of Café de Champion, mixing with average Chicagoans. Stretching from 31<sup>st</sup> to 39<sup>th</sup> Street, The Stroll was where people did just that – stroll, relax, talk, and walk to the sound of the music flowing from the clubs all night long.

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<sup>8</sup> Image from [http://www.whitehousehistory.org/whha\\_shows/depriest-tea-incident/african-american-congress.html](http://www.whitehousehistory.org/whha_shows/depriest-tea-incident/african-american-congress.html).

**Figure 9. Advertisement for The Sunset Cafe<sup>9</sup>**



New Orleans' jazz greats such as Louis Armstrong, King Oliver, and Ferdinand Joseph LaMothe (better known as Jelly Roll Morton) brought the music of their native southern homes to packed houses on State Street in the early 1920s. Eventually, the northern and southern regional jazz styles were fused to create a distinct Chicago sound. In the 1920s, the Regal Theater opened its doors, hosting some of the country's most talented and glamorous Black entertainers. Theatergoers could see jazz stars like Billie Holiday, Count Basie, and Duke Ellington. Later, jazz enthusiasts

would enjoy the sounds of Miles Davis and Dizzy Gillespie.

Venues such as the Pekin Theater, the Panama Club, and the Sunset Café were referred to as Black and Tans, allowing all customers in, regardless of race, a rare event at the time. Musical collaboration and innovation reached new levels of intensity in the Black Metropolis. According to local lore, if a horn were held up on the corner of State and 35th Streets it would have played itself. Later, the Black Metropolis-Bronzeville community would become known for its Chicago-style blues heavily influenced by blues legend Muddy Waters. Known as the King of Chicago Blues, Waters played an electric guitar and developed a rugged style of blues – distinctly Chicago – which greatly influenced many rock-n'-roll musicians.

On Sundays in the 1930s, gospel music could be heard in the air of the Black Metropolis. The First Church of Deliverance was the first church to broadcast its services live on the radio, proliferating the reach of gospel. It has been written that, gospel music was birthed at Pilgrim Baptist Church by Thomas A. Dorsey. Dorsey composed over 1,000 gospel songs, including the well-known gospel song "Precious Lord Take My Hand." By combining religious music with the sound of secular blues, Dorsey created something that every Black church in the nation would take hold of. Dorsey nurtured a number of gospel greats, such as James Cleveland, Mahalia Jackson, and Roberta Martin.

Mahalia Jackson hailed from New Orleans but moved to Chicago at the age of 16. Her unique vocal abilities, coupled with her association with Thomas Dorsey, made her a rising star. During the 1950s, Jackson's vocals could be heard on radio, television, and in concert halls around the world. Audiences in Europe packed her shows; she hosted her own Sunday night radio show for CBS; and in 1956, Jackson performed on the Ed Sullivan show, bringing gospel music into the mainstream. Jackson was also no stranger to the civil rights movement, as she

<sup>9</sup> Image from <http://katieaune.com/raised-in-chicago-jazz/>.



would often perform at civil rights rallies. She sang a slave spiritual at the 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom before Dr. King gave his I Have a Dream speech. Less than five years later, Jackson would sing at Dr. King's funeral.

In 1935, the Chicago Public Schools opened a second public high school for Blacks– DuSable High School – to accommodate the growing student body at Wendell Phillips High School. Named after Chicago's first permanent settler, DuSable became known for its outstanding music program. Music instructor Captain Walter Dyett was responsible for cultivating local artists through the school's music program, including jazz tenor saxophone player Gene Ammons; jazz pianist Dorothy Donegan; the prolific Nat King Cole; and Grammy-award winning singer Dinah Washington. Other notables that attended DuSable High School included television host and producer of Soul Train, Don Cornelius; standup comedian and actor Redd Foxx; and Chicago's first African-American mayor, Harold Washington.

Like Harlem's Renaissance, Chicago's Black Renaissance was fueled by a number of artists that included not only musicians, but visual artists, intellectuals, and writers. Chicago's Renaissance was due in part to the federal programs of the Works Progress Administration (WPA), which provided both top-down and bottom-up funding to Black Metropolis' artists. WPA funds went directly local artists to cultivate skills in all fields. However, additional WPA funding helped finance the creation of the South Side Community Art Center, which cultivated numerous local artists including: Gordon Parks, an African-American film director, musician, photographer and writer who is acclaimed for his photographic essays in Life magazine and as the director of the 1971 film Shaft; Margaret Burroughs, artist, author, educator and one of the co-founders of the DuSable Museum of African American History; and Archibald Motley, Jr., a painter.

Numerous prominent Blacks contributed to the Black Metropolis' literary and cultural reputation. New York writer Langston Hughes, leader of the Harlem Renaissance, wrote a popular column and comic for the Defender, which explored themes of race and Black and working-class society. Lorraine Hansberry, author and playwright, wrote "A Raisin in the Sun" which stemmed from the racially-restrictive covenants her father Carl Hansberry encountered when he tried to buy a home in the all-White Washington Park subdivision of the Woodlawn neighborhood.

Author and Bronzeville resident Richard Wright brought to light the character of race relations in both Chicago and America through his novel Native Son. Published in 1940, Native Son tells the story of a young disadvantaged Black man, Bigger Thomas, living on Chicago's South Side who is sentenced to death for murdering a white girl. Thomas is portrayed as a product of the society he lives in, having no opportunity other than the menial one that has been predetermined by others. Wright exposed many of the social underpinnings of being Black in America through this novel. Upon its release Native Son sold over 250,000 copies nationwide, sparking a national discussion on race.

The Black Metropolis was also home to Pulitzer Prize winner Gwendolyn Brooks. Brooks authored *A Street in Bronzeville*, which was a direct reflection of life in the Black Metropolis. Brooks won the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry in 1950, and would later be honored as Illinois' Poet Laureate in 1968; she would also serve as Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry to the Library of Congress in 1985.

### ***Sports and Recreation***

During the early 1900s, the way many Americans began to spend their leisure time changed. Sports emerged as major national pastime for all Americans. To that end, many prolific athletes and sporting teams emerged out of the Black Metropolis.

Famed heavyweight champion of the world, Jack Johnson, would call the Black Metropolis home during his reign from 1908 to 1915. It is believed that Johnson was the most photographed Black man of all time. Johnson's celebrity status could not be overstated, so much so that whites across the country searched desperately for a "great white hope" to defeat him in the ring. Johnson built his training facilities behind his home at 33<sup>rd</sup> Street and South Wabash and opened Café de Champion, a jazz club, located on The Stroll.

Between the 1900s and 1930s, the Black Metropolis was home to the National Negro Baseball League. Andrew "Rube" Foster was responsible for organizing the league. Foster owned and managed the Chicago Giants, the dominant team in the league during its existence. The Giants played at Schorling Park, also called South Side Park. Schorling Park was the original home of the Chicago White Sox before they moved to Comiskey Park, now U.S. Cellular Field. Chicago's South Side was also home to the Negro League's East-West All Star game, bringing thousands of fans out to vote and see their favorite players play in this annual game.

In the late 1920s a group of young men from Wendell Phillips High School decided they would come together to play exhibition basketball games at famed jazz club, The Savoy. Originally called the Savoy Big Five, the team renamed themselves the Harlem Globetrotters, thinking the new name would garner them even greater interest from locals – being that Harlem was so revered. Initially the Globetrotters did not parade as jesters on the court. The Globetrotters' comedic acts began in the late 1930s as a means to amuse the crowd and to give the small squad a breather during games.

Ohioan, Olympian, and son of Alabama sharecroppers, Jesse Owens would eventually call Chicago home. Known for his outstanding performance at the 1936 Berlin Summer Olympics, Owens served as the director and eventually as a board member of the Chicago Boys' Club. He also served as the sports specialist to the State of Illinois' Youth Commission. In 1956, President Eisenhower named Owens the U.S. representative to the Australian Olympic Games.

Like Owens, Ralph Metcalfe was also an outstanding sprinter. Metcalfe moved to Chicago from Atlanta, Georgia as a teen. He attended high school at Tilden Technical High on Chicago's South Side, and later enrolled at Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. At his first

Olympics, the 1932 Los Angeles Summer Games, Metcalfe took bronze in the 200-meter dash and the silver in the 100-meter dash. At the 1936 Berlin Olympics, Metcalfe and Owens were two of the four members of the gold medal winning 400-meter relay team. Later in life, Metcalfe became an important political figure in Chicago.

Texas native, and Bronzeville resident, Elizabeth “Bessie” Coleman, was inspired to become a pilot after hearing stories of returning WWI pilots. Unable to train to become a pilot in the U.S. because she was a woman, and African-American, Jesse Binga and the Defender financed her training overseas in Germany. Coleman came back to the U.S. and participated in her first air show in 1922 in New York. She would return to Chicago in 1928 to perform at the Checkerboard Airdrome (Midway Airport) performing death-defying feats in front of packed crowds. As the first African-American female pilot, Coleman inspired a generation of African-American pilots, including the Tuskegee Airmen and the Army Air Corps program, which trained African-Americans to fly and maintain combat aircraft during WWII.

## **The End of an Era**

The Great Depression brought an end the Great Migration and to the financial and economic prosperity of the Black Metropolis. The Depression affected the entire nation. Many of Black Wall Street’s financial institutions were forced to shutter their doors, leaving a gaping hole in the socio-economic strength of the community. Despite the absence of social and economic resources, the community would continue to grow in population over the next several decades, bringing with it a number of opportunities and challenges.

### ***Jobs and Housing***

Migration north accelerated again during WWII. Increased industrial production created many new jobs in Chicago. This, combined with the expanded use of the mechanical cotton picker in the South, again drove Blacks to northern cities. In 1940, Bronzeville’s African-American population was second only to Harlem, with over 337,000 residents.

The Chicago that migrants encountered during the second wave of the Great Migration was fundamentally different from the community the first migrants settled. Labor gains achieved in the 1930s brought a stable work environment in Chicago’s biggest industries – steel production and meat packing. However, segregation and employment and housing discrimination continued to limit opportunities for African-Americans in Chicago. Stores in the Loop would not hire African-Americans as clerks while bus drivers, police officers, and firefighters were limited to positions in Black neighborhoods. The construction trades too remained closed to Blacks. Furthermore, the narrow confines of Chicago’s Black Belt was could no longer supply the physical infrastructure needed to house the growing number of African-Americans in Chicago, even though the housing was subdivided in an attempt to contain the burgeoning population.

Racial redlining became the official policy used to enforce housing segregation. As in the past, white-owned establishment banks and insurance companies continued to refuse to lend money, write mortgages, or provide insurance policies in particular parts of the city. The practice of redlining originated in 1935, when the Federal Home Loan Bank Board (FHLBB) asked Home Owners' Loan Corporation (HOLC) to look at 239 cities and create "residential security maps" to indicate the level of security for real-estate investments in each city. Based on assumptions about the community, as opposed to individual household's ability to satisfy lending criteria, the maps defined many minority neighborhoods as ineligible to receive financing. Banks and insurers soon adopted the HOLC's maps and practices to guide lending and underwriting decisions. Further, the Federal Housing Administration (FHA), created in 1934, also used the HOLC's methods to assess locations for federally insured new housing construction. Since Blacks were already unwelcome in many of Chicago's white neighborhoods, the policy effectively meant that they could not secure mortgage loans through traditional sources.

Overcoming obstacles was not uncommon to residents of greater Bronzeville. Starting in the 1940s, African-Americans took their fight over racially restrictive housing covenants to the courts. At this time many Chicago neighborhoods remained off-limits to African-Americans. Earl B. Dickerson, a Mississippi native and the first Black graduate of the University of Chicago Law School, argued one of the first legal cases against racially-restrictive covenants before the U.S. Supreme Court in *Hansberry v. Lee*. This case opened the door for the eventual demise of the discriminatory practice. Dickerson's client was Carl Hansberry, author Lorraine Hansberry's father. Ultimately, the U.S. Supreme Court would declare racially-restrictive covenants as unenforceable in the pivotal 1948 case of *Shelley v. Kraemer*. Dickerson went on to assist in organizing the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund. He was also the first Democrat elected as Second Ward Alderman and served as a member of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's Fair Employment Practices Committee.

This easing of segregated housing policies afforded many residents the opportunity to move out of the community, but also concentrated poverty and exacerbated community disinvestment. The opportunity for middle- and upper-income African-Americans to venture to other parts of the city left a concentration of lower-income residents in Bronzeville. Left with aging and deteriorating housing stock and few local businesses, community social workers and activists took up the torch to fight for resources to better the African-American community.

Community activist Irene McCoy Gaines fought for better housing, education, employment, and social opportunity for African-Americans living in Bronzeville. Gaines served on President Herbert Hoover's National Committee on Negro Housing. Her participation in the committee led to the drafting of a report titled *The Physical Aspect of Negro Housing*, which documented disparity of living conditions in African-American communities. Her report initiated the federal Public Works Administration's construction of the Ida B. Wells Homes public housing project in 1941. The Ida B. Wells Homes was the fourth constructed public housing project in Chicago, but was by far the largest, and in later years consisting of more than 1,600 units



housed in 124 buildings. Regarded a success at the time, Ida B. Wells Homes provided low-income African-Americans with newly constructed affordable housing.

### ***Urban Renewal***

In the 1950s and 60s urban renewal swept the South Side of Chicago and brought with it the construction of additional high-rise public housing buildings for tens of thousands of people in the Black Metropolis. Stateway Gardens, completed in 1958, became the second largest public housing project in Chicago with 1,684 units. Shortly thereafter, in 1962, the Robert Taylor Homes were built, consisting of 28 high rise buildings each 16-stories tall, totaling 4,415 apartments – one of the largest public housing developments in the nation.

At its peak, Robert Taylor Homes housed 27,000 residents, over twice the 11,000 it was planned for. That same year, the Dan Ryan Expressway opened along Bronzeville's western border, isolating the community from other neighborhoods. (The digging of the Dan Ryan Expressway also caused the razing and relocation of the newly reconstructed Progressive Baptist Church, a church that was birthed out of the Great Migration.) Named after African-American activist and CHA board member, Robert Taylor resigned from the CHA board in 1950 because City Council refused to support building public housing locations throughout the City, which Taylor believed would have fostered racially integrated housing. Taylor was the son of Robert Robinson Taylor, the first accredited African-American architect in the United States, who was the first African-American student to enroll in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and complete his degree in architecture. Robert Robinson Taylor was a faculty member at Tuskegee Institute for almost 40 years, where he developed and managed the school's buildings and infrastructure. Robert Taylor is the grandfather of Valerie Jarrett, Senior Advisor to President Barack Obama.

Many famous African-Americans grew up in Robert Taylor Homes, including: Maurice Cheeks, a retired National Basketball Association player and head coach of the Detroit Pistons; Deval Patrick, American politician, civil rights attorney and Democratic Governor of Massachusetts; Kirby Puckett, Major League Baseball player for the Minnesota Twins from 1984-1995; Marvin Smith, American jazz drummer and composer and known for his drumming position on the Tonight Show with Jay Leno; and actor Mr. T, known for his role on the A-Team.

Urban renewal efforts were intended to revitalize declining urban neighborhoods in phases by way of massive demolition, slum clearance, and rehabilitation. In addition to the construction of public housing, urban renewal efforts in Bronzeville involved construction around IIT's campus and Michael Reese Hospital. Institutional expansions and new residential developments (Lake Meadows, Prairie Shores and South Commons) wiped out existing homes throughout Bronzeville, scattering previously tight-knit communities elsewhere in the City.

In 1970 Chicago was home to over a million African-American residents, and a majority of these households were located in racially prescribed neighborhoods on the City's south and west sides. A group of community leaders from the South Side, called the Citizens' Action Program,

developed a grassroots strategy to counter redlining, called “greenlining.” Residents were encouraged to deposit savings in banks that pledged to reinvest funds in urban communities. Chicagoans also played a role in lobbying Congress to pass the Community Reinvestment Act of 1977 (CRA), requiring banks to lend in areas from which they accepted deposits. The law was bolstered by the efforts of the National Training and Information Center in Chicago, led by Gale Cincotta. The Center successfully negotiated \$173 million in CRA agreements from three major downtown banks in 1984, bringing loans and branch banking services to Bronzeville and other predominantly African-American Chicago neighborhoods.

During the 1990s, it became apparent that public housing throughout Chicago had deteriorated immensely. Built with the intention of providing decent and affordable housing to poor and low-income households, these developments had become communities of concentrated poverty, plagued with crime, drugs and violence. In 2000, the CHA set out to rehabilitate and redevelop all of Chicago’s public housing, under the Plan for Transformation, the largest and most ambitious public housing plan in the nation.

The Plan for Transformation echoed Robert Taylor’s hopes in the 1950s, to integrate public housing residents into the larger Chicago community. Deemed the solution to concentrated poverty in public housing properties, mixed-income communities were intended to diminish the stigma attached to public housing by attracting residents of different economic status to live side-by-side. The Plan included provisions for supportive services that would help residents become more self-sufficient, this included: job training and placement, substance abuse treatment, day care, and more. As a result of the Plan, over 10,000 units of public housing in Bronzeville were demolished between 1996 and 2011. Portions of former public housing sites in Bronzeville have been replaced with mixed-income developments, while other portions of these sites have been left vacant and idle. CHA is on deadline to complete the units it promised, which poses an opportunity to address some of Bronzeville’s now underutilized land.

## The Black Metropolis: Today

In honor of the African-Americans who played a role in the Black Metropolis, the Bronzeville Walk of Fame was created in 1996. The walk of fame consists of a series of bronze plaques embedded in the sidewalks from 25<sup>th</sup> and 35<sup>th</sup> Streets along Martin Luther King Drive, and culminates with a sculpture titled “The Monument to the Great Northern Migration.” Fifteen-feet in height, the sculpture is a bronze migrant symbolizing the journey African-Americans made north to Chicago. The migrant is waving and carries a worn suitcase held together with rope. Artist and California-born African-American sculptor Alison Saar describes her work in an inscription at the site:

*“This bronze monument depicts a man wearing a suit made of shoe soles rising from a mound of soles. The soles, worn and full of holes, symbolize the often difficult journey from the south to the north. It commemorates all the African-American men and women who migrated to Chicago after the Civil War.”*



**Figure 10. Monument to the Great Northern Migration<sup>10</sup>**



The Great Migration laid the foundation for the economic, cultural, and political story of Chicago's South Side, Illinois, and the nation. As the Black Metropolis grew so did African-American's impact on American life, culture, and democracy. From the civil rights, to the emergence of the African-American music scene, to the development of African-American entrepreneurs, to the election of the city's first Black mayor Harold Washington in 1983, to the election of the nation's first Black president, Chicago's own, Barack Obama in 2008; none of these accomplishments would have been possible if not for those who fought for freedom and equal rights in the Black Metropolis.

The historical significance of the Black Metropolis, and the modern-day Bronzeville community, continues to attract new residents of all races. These individuals are staking their claim in this historic community, awaiting its resurgence. Developers and property owners are rehabbing greystones and the area's many historic buildings.

New retail development has occurred along 35<sup>th</sup> and 47<sup>th</sup> Streets. The artistic community is expanding. In addition to the South Side Community Arts Center, one can visit a number of new art galleries and enjoy dinner and nightlife locally.

Efforts to revitalize the Black Metropolis speak to its importance. Black heritage tours of the area are given to visitors to show the landmarks that represent the Great Migration. The BVIC was established to serve as a source of information to visitors. Located in the historic Supreme/Liberty Life Building, which was once headquarters to the first African-American owned and operated insurance company in the North the BVIC provides tours to visitors from around the world and houses a gallery of African and African-American art. Today, visitors to Black Metropolis-Bronzeville can also participate in the Historic Bronzeville Annual Bike Tour, which covers 16-miles and leads participants to 40 historic sites throughout the community.

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<sup>10</sup> Image from <http://chicago-outdoor-sculptures.blogspot.com/2009/09/monument-to-great-northern-migration.html>.

**Figure 11. South Shore Drill Team, performing at the 2013 Bud Billiken Parade<sup>11</sup>**



The traditions of the Black Metropolis continue to live on. The Chicago Defender's Bud Billiken Parade, the oldest and largest African-American parade in the United States, continues to celebrate African-American achievement. Held annually on the second Saturday in August, the parade has been attended by countless African-American youth, families, alongside politicians, celebrities, and famous Grand Marshalls including Presidents Truman, Kennedy, Johnson, and Obama, and celebrities Nat King Cole, Michael Jordan, and Muhammad Ali.

**Figure 12. Former President Harry S. Truman (left), John H. Sengstacke, and Chicago Mayor Richard J. Daley at the 1953 Bud Billiken Parade<sup>12</sup>**



In an effort to preserve the Black Metropolis' history, the University of Chicago now hosts an extensive archive of historic documents and research material. This collection, the Black Metropolis Research Consortium, helps not only to preserve the community's history, but share it with educators, researchers, and others who care about the legacy of the community.

<sup>11</sup> Image from <http://www.southshoredrillteam.org/bud-billiken-parade>.

<sup>12</sup> Image from [http://www.nytimes.com/2009/05/27/us/27defenders.html?\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2009/05/27/us/27defenders.html?_r=0).



## Chapter 3: Themes

The proposed legislation Congressman Rush brought to the House floor in 2008 and 2009 included 11 themes which exemplify the Black Metropolis' contribution to American history (for a description of the original themes, see **Error! Reference source not found.**). Drawing from the initial 11 themes, this chapter focuses on four themes that have made a significant contribution to history, and provide outstanding opportunities for conservation, recreation, and education moving forward. These themes – Arts and Culture, Civil Rights and Social Activism, Business, and Industry and Labor – each highlight the role the Black Metropolis-Bronzeville and the Great Migration played in national history.

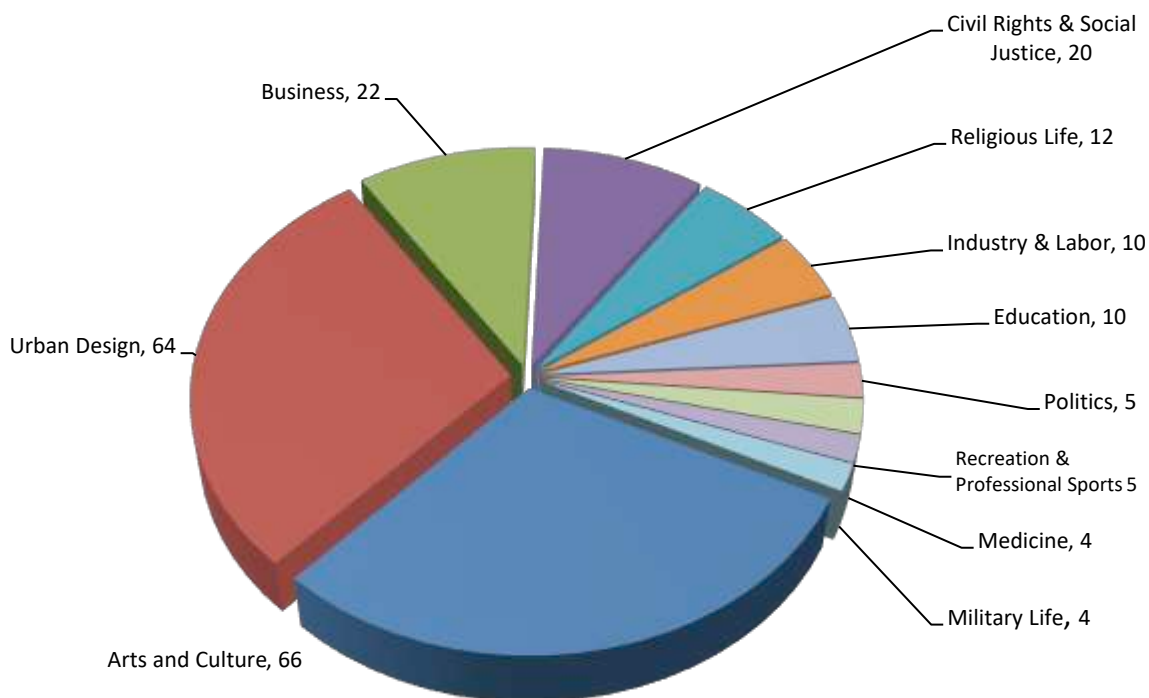
In an effort to better understand how to best illustrate the story of the Black Metropolis, historical landmarks, local organizations, businesses, public places, and archives of local information such as library collections were inventoried, and included in a matrix (see **Error! Reference source not found.**). Each person, place, or item, referred to as an asset, has a place in the narrative of the Great Migration and in the creation of the Black Metropolis. Each asset is associated with one or more of the narrative themes that the study team is using to describe the study area's national significance. In all, over 200 assets were catalogued. These include the iconic buildings of the Black Metropolis-Bronzeville District, as well as other designated landmarks per the City of Chicago, or the National Historic Register. Assets may refer to existing structures and institutions as well as entities that are no longer in existence.

The importance of the matrix is its ability to weave historical figures, physical places, and existing organizations into the Great Migration and Black Metropolis narratives. This allows these entities to play a role in the transmission and interpretation of the Migration story. Physical structures found within the study area serve as potential sites for cultural tourism and education, as well as future historical preservation efforts. The grouping of assets by theme aided the study team in choosing to highlight some themes over others within the feasibility study, as areas with many existing assets will likely be the focus of future historical preservation or tourism efforts.

Arts and Culture has the largest number of associated assets, indicating the study area's special significance in this category. Urban Design is second, although many of the assets associated with this theme find themselves there based on landmark status more than relevance to the Great Migration or Black Metropolis stories. Business, Religious Life, Social Justice and Civil Rights, and Industry and Labor all have 10 or more assets associated with them.



**Figure 1. Total Black Metropolis Assets by Theme**



## Arts and Culture

According to NPS's 1996 Thematic Framework, literature, visual and performing arts, and mass media all fall within the theme of expressing cultural values – “people’s beliefs about themselves and the world they inhabit.”<sup>1</sup> The Black Metropolis would not have come to light had it not been for the many Black-owned newspapers’ commitment to providing news to African-Americans across the nation. As families migrated north, following the bright lights depicted in newspapers and literature, they brought with them music, visual and performance art, and more. Much of which is preserved and celebrated today.

### Literature

The *Chicago Defender*, the paper that served as the mouthpiece of the migration, is currently headquartered on King Drive. The paper was formerly housed at 3435 S. Indiana in a converted synagogue, a building which is now a part of the Black Metropolis Historical District. The home of the paper’s founder, **Robert S. Abbott**, is a designated City and national landmark. Other important media outlets included Anthony Overton’s *Chicago Bee* newspaper, headquarters of which remains in use as a Chicago Public Library, and Ferdinand Barnett’s **Associated Negro**

<sup>1</sup> Revision of the National Park Service’s Thematic Framework. 1996. p 9.

**Press**, long-since shuttered. It was the *Chicago Bee's* theater editor, **James Gentry**, who coined the term 'Bronzeville' in 1930 as part of an unsuccessful Mayor of Bronzeville contest in the newspaper.

The *Defender* is truly a living legacy, as the paper continues to publish its weekly edition, and the Defender Charities host the annual **Bud Billiken Parade**. Originally organized in 1929, the parade takes its name from a fictional character created in 1923 by Abbott and popularized among Chicago youth in a *Defender* comic strip. During the Great Depression, the character served as a symbol of pride, happiness and hope for black residents. Today the parade serves as a celebration of South Side culture, and marks the start of the new school year for Chicago youth.

Other literary landmarks include the homes of novelists **Lorraine Hansberry** and **Richard Wright**, each of which is a designated Chicago landmark. Visitors can also see the home of poet **Gwendolyn Brooks**, the first African-American to win a Pulitzer Prize, and Poet Laureate of the State of Illinois from 1968 until her death in 2000. These landmarks provide a glimpse into the lives of Chicago Renaissance writers, key contributors to a vibrant Black arts scene. As was the case with jazz and other artistic forms, the tumultuous nature of the times and ongoing racial strife caused these figures to search for meaning and identity in new ways.

## **Music**

Jazz and other musical forms became cultural hallmarks of the Black Metropolis – through them one gets a deeper understanding of the migration story. In the 1920s and 30s, South State Street, from 31<sup>st</sup> to 39<sup>th</sup> Streets, was referred to as “the Stroll”, a place to see and be seen for Chicago’s African-Americans. Jazz greats such as **Louis Armstrong**, **Jelly Roll Morton**, and **Joe “King” Oliver** migrated to Chicago from the Mississippi delta region, following the same path as factory workers and families who came during the Great Migration. While the 35<sup>th</sup> and State Street area also served as the commercial center of Bronzeville, it truly came alive at night when the jazzmen took to the stage. Jazz music pumping from clubs such as the **Pekin**, and **Dreamland Café** provided the Stroll’s soundtrack, and served as the main attraction for both locals and visitors. Today, most of State Street’s jazz venues are gone; however, the community preserves its jazz heritage through Chicago Landmark signage, public art, and video histories that can be found on the Bronzeville Visitor Information Center’s website and concerts throughout the year.

Still standing is the **Grand Terrace**, one of the City’s earliest and most legendary jazz venues, created in 1921 through the renovation of an existing automobile garage. Today it houses an ACE hardware store, but the Black Metropolis-Bronzeville Historic District sign outside attracts many visitors to the small museum on the second floor. Now an apartment complex, the old **Sutherland Hotel** was once home to Louis Armstrong, and the **Sutherland Lounge** counted icons such as Miles Davis, Dizzy Gillespie and John Coltrane as players in residence. In recent years, other local artists have presented music festivals at the Sutherland and at the Harold Washington Cultural Center near the site of the Savoy Ballroom and the Regal Theater.



Chicago's black musical legacy is not confined to South State Street. The **Motor Row District**, near McCormick Place, in the study area's northern section, served as the home of **Chess Records**, the iconic jazz and blues imprint, as well as other record companies that helped make Chicago a center of rhythm and blues (R & B) and soul. These included pioneering soul label **Vee-Jay**, Curtis Mayfield's **Curtom** records, and other subsidiaries of national labels such as **Brunswick** and **Okeh**. Fittingly, the City of Chicago is encouraging the development of Motor Row as an entertainment district, rezoning property, and the CTA plans to open a Green Line station in the area in 2014.

Like its jazz artists, Chicago's blues and gospel greats trace their roots along the Great Migration path. Muddy Waters, the City's most famous bluesman, first came to Chicago in 1941, and eventually joined a record company run by **Leonard and Phil Chess**, then called Aristocrat. The label's name was changed to **Chess Records**, and its roster would grow to include Howlin' Wolf, Willie Dixon, Little Walter, Chuck Berry, and Etta James. Today, **Willie Dixon's Blues Heaven** occupies the former Chess offices, providing support for working musicians and promoting blues history. **WVON**, the radio station founded by the Chess brothers to expose their blues, jazz, and R & B artists to the public, still remains a vital community institution on Chicago's South Side, recently celebrating a 50-year anniversary. Among the former blues clubs, the **Checkerboard Lounge** is a survivor. Muddy Waters, B.B. King and Chuck Berry once played the intimate room, and blues artists from across the South Side and beyond now perform here. Bronzeville commemorates this heritage with a series of street installations, monuments, and decorative signs along 47<sup>th</sup> Street, collectively referred to as the **Blues District**.

Modern gospel music finds its genesis at **Pilgrim Baptist Church**, located at 3301 S. Indiana, where the "Father of Gospel Music," Thomas A. Dorsey, served as the long-time music director. Dorsey's legacy, and the contributions of protégés such as Mahalia Jackson and the Barrett Sisters, was recognized when the City of Chicago staged the popular **2012 Chicago Gospel Music Festival** at a park near Pilgrim Baptist, in Bronzeville. Another existing church, **First Church of Deliverance**, pioneered Christian radio broadcasting and allowed Chicago gospel to spread widely.

## **Visual Arts**

The Visual arts are not forgotten in Bronzeville. The **South Side Community Arts Center** was originally built as a home for grain merchant George Seaverns, Jr., then converted in 1940 for use as an art center. The building's interior, remodeled at that time, is a rare example of New Bauhaus-style design. The art center, which was established as part of the Works Progress Administration's (WPA) Federal Art Project, has been influential in the development of the city's African-American artists. It is the only continuous survivor of the more than 100 centers established nationwide by the WPA during the 1930s and 40s. Several galleries are currently located along Bronzeville's boulevards, including **Gallery Guichard** at 35<sup>th</sup> Street and King Drive, **Blanc** gallery at 45<sup>th</sup> Street and King Drive, and **Faïé Afrikan Gallery** at 1005 E. 43<sup>rd</sup> Street.





Columbia College's **Center for Black Music Research**, Chicago History Museum's **Keepers of Culture** project, and the University of Chicago's **Chicago Jazz Archive** serve as critical archives for Chicago's musical artifacts and history. The **Chicago Cultural Center** and the **Vivian G. Harsh Research Collection of Afro-American History and Literature** at the Woodson Regional Library house more general collections of papers and artifacts related to the Metropolis period. A more general collection of African-American cultural artifacts and papers can be found at the **DuSable Museum of African-American History**, located at 740 East 56<sup>th</sup> Place.

## **Opportunities**

Bronzeville's literary stature, and the explosion of realist writing that was produced by Chicagoans in the years following the Migration, has not been widely recognized. As was the

**Figure 2. Mural in Bronzeville, Under the 'L', Celebrating Bronzeville's History<sup>2</sup>**



case in the visual and musical arts, the influx of new residents and the removal of traditional barriers to business and social participation caused a "flowering" of the arts. This movement, referred to as the Chicago Renaissance, is similar to the earlier Harlem Renaissance of the 1920s. The literary spirit of the times can be experienced today in Bronzeville's galleries and museums, as well as by visiting historic homes of Chicago writers. Still, further interpretation and cultivation of the area's literary history and sites is needed, and should be considered a tremendous opportunity for growth.

Opportunities for cultural tourism and a greater appreciation of Bronzeville's role in the development of several musical forms are to be found in a variety of places. Currently, the **Chicago Blues Museum** is a travelling collection of between 1,800 and 2,500 records and other artifacts that preserve Chicago's rich tradition of blues, jazz, soul and gospel music. Gregg Parker, a Chicago historian, serves as the curator of this "mobile museum," and intends to house his collection in Bronzeville upon securing a permanent location. Another heritage project in the works is the **National Jazz Museum**, a yet-to-be-built museum sponsored by the **Chicago Jazz Institute**. Completing these projects will create physical destinations for jazz tourism and education.

The City's Cultural Affairs office staged the **2012 Chicago Gospel Music Festival** in Bronzeville, returning the event to gospel's birthplace and bringing approximately 25,000 visitors to the neighborhood over three days. Similarly, the annual **Chicago Jazz Music Festival**

<sup>2</sup> Image from <http://wikitravel.org/en/Chicago/Bronzeville>.

has been a Labor-Day-weekend tradition since 1979, attracting jazz lovers from around the world to downtown Chicago. Continuing these events, bringing performances to Bronzeville venues when possible, and expanding promotion and supportive programming within Bronzeville provide great opportunities to bring visitors to the community, and to further understanding and appreciation of the South Side's musical legacy.

The 40,000-square-foot **Harold Washington Cultural Center**, located at 47th Street and King, is a performing-arts venue and media education facility run by the City Colleges of Chicago. The building's 1,000-seat theater was envisioned as an anchor for the **Blues District**, and remains a potential cultural outlet and tourist attraction for Bronzeville.

## Civil Rights and Social Activism

It was not simply the expression of arts and culture that made the Great Migration and Black Metropolis a place that so many desired to call home. The numerous institutions, organizations, and eventually social movements helped define the Black Metropolis-Bronzeville community as a nationally important place, a place that helped shape the local and national political landscape during the civil rights period and beyond, by fighting for fair housing, access to banking, and education. The schools, associations, and local institutions were the pillars of the social community; together they defined the values of the African-Americans who called Bronzeville home.

When it comes to civil rights and the fight for greater acceptance of Black Americans in larger society, Bronzeville is a land of many firsts. In fact, Chicago's civil rights credentials can be traced to the City's first settler, **Jean Baptiste Pointe Du Sable** (alternate spellings include Point de Sable, Point au Sable, Point Du Sable). Du Sable's ethnicity is debated – various historical theories point to Dominican, French Canadian, or Haitian origins – but he is known to be of African descent. He is known as the "Founder of Chicago" and the place where he settled at the mouth of the Chicago River in the 1770s is recognized as a national landmark. A number of Chicago institutions have been named in honor of Point du Sable, including **Du Sable High School** in Bronzeville, the first Chicago high school built specifically for African-American students, in 1934 and the DuSable Museum of African American History.

By the 1860's, Chicago's black community came to be composed of former slaves and freedmen with the population nearing 1,000 by 1860. **John Jones**, a tailor, and his wife, **Mary Jane Richardson Jones**, headed anti-discrimination efforts within the City during the 1850's and 1860s, opening their home at 119 Dearborn Street to fugitive slaves on their way to Canada. Their wealth by 1860 was valued at \$1,500, a considerable sum at that time; by 1960, he was one of the nation's wealthiest African-Americans. Jones successfully fought Chicago's Black Laws, which forced African-Americans to pay taxes for services from which they received no benefit, achieving their repeal in 1865. He became a Cook County commissioner in 1871, the first black to hold elected office in Illinois.



At the time, the center of Chicago's abolitionist movement was **Quinn Chapel AME**, which visitors can find today in Bronzeville. Chicago's oldest African-American congregation, Quinn traces its origins back to 1844, when seven individuals formed a nondenominational prayer group that met in the house of one of its members. After the Chicago Fire of 1871 destroyed the group's original church, and after meeting for many years in temporary locations, the congregation purchased the present site in 1891. It stands as a reminder of Chicago's abolition movement and the late-19th century character of the area.

Another group of black leaders emerged in Chicago at the close of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. One was **Ferdinand L. Barnett**, an attorney. Barnett established Chicago's first black newspaper, the *Conservator*, and used the outlet to advocate for black solidarity and proper social deportment. **Ida B. Wells** was a southern activist and investigative journalist whose pioneering work documenting lynching led to a national campaign against the practice. She moved to Chicago and married Barnett in 1895; the couple lived at **3624 S. Grand Boulevard**, now 3624 S. King Drive, where the house stands as a historical landmark. Wells would go on to achieve international prominence, playing a key role in the 1909 conference that established the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

Other civil rights attractions in Bronzeville include the **Carl Hansberry Home**, a three-flat apartment building at 6140 S. Rhodes Avenue that is significant for its associations with playwright Lorraine Hansberry, but also importantly as the focus of the real-life story behind Hansberry's most famous play, *A Raisin in the Sun*. Hansberry's inspiration for the play came from the trauma that her family endured as part of a three-year legal battle that ensued after her father purchased the home. The United States Supreme Court's resulting 1940 decision in *Hansberry v. Lee* outlawed the racially-discriminatory covenant specifically in the Washington park subdivision of the Woodlawn Community. While limited in scope, the decision buoyed hopes for a more far-reaching, all-inclusive decision, one that came in 1948. These legal instruments had been used for decades in Chicago, and the formation of the Black housing belt is due in large part to their usage. Besides its local impact, the *Hansberry* decision encouraged the national NAACP to engage in a legal crusade against restrictive housing covenants.

The 1955 lynching and subsequent funeral of Chicago teenager, Emmett Till was one of the catalytic events of the civil-rights movement. Bronzeville's **Roberts Temple Church of God in Christ**, at 4021 S. State Street, was the location of the funeral and an open-casket visitation in September of that year. The open-casket visitation drew thousands of mourners, possibly as many as 100,000, and photographs of Till's mutilated body were distributed widely, fueling public outrage. The Temple was designated a Chicago landmark in 2008.

**Wendell Phillips High School**, named for the staunch abolitionist and leading figure in the American anti-slavery movement, became Chicago's first predominantly African-American high school. Phillips educated many who rose to prominence in the arts and other professions. During this period, the school's winning basketball teams formed the nucleus of a group that later became the **Harlem Globetrotters**. Numerous noteworthy individuals have attended

Wendell Phillips and been inducted in their "Hall of Fame," including well-known alumni such as entertainers **Nat "King" Cole** and **Dinah Washington**, businessmen **John H. Johnson** and **George E. Johnson**, and **Alonzo S. Parham**, the first African-American from Chicago to attend West Point.

A memorial to civil rights heroes and other African-American icons of a different type can be found at **Sim's Barber Shop**, a long-serving barber on 47<sup>th</sup> Street. The shop's west wall serves as the canvas for a unique mural, called the Sim's Corner Wall of Respect.

Through the struggles of the Civil War and Reconstruction periods, during the several waves of the Great Migration, and into the post-war period, Bronzeville's strong African-American institutions have played leadership roles in the fight for civil rights. The **Chicago Urban League**, founded in 1916, helped thousands of southern migrants to settle in Bronzeville. From its current headquarters at 4510 S. Michigan Avenue, the Urban League continues fight for social justice and a strong, sustainable African-American community. Another early service provided in Bronzeville was the **Wabash Avenue YMCA**. This facility provided housing and job training for new arrivals during the Great Migration, earning it a place in the Black Metropolis-Bronzeville Historic District. A notable aspect of the building's history was the founding here, in 1915, of the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, one of the first groups devoted to African-American studies.

### ***Opportunities***

Along with other aspects of the Great Migration and the Black Metropolis story, there are large gaps in public awareness regarding Bronzeville's role in the civil rights movement. The Migration itself can be seen as the first step in a continuum that includes later civil rights activism, and ultimately achievements by and greater inclusion of Black Americans. In Chicago, great moments such as the election of the City's first African-American mayor, **Harold Washington, Jr.**, can be linked to the Migration, and to the political base first organized in the Black housing belt. Landmarks associated with Mayor Washington, the larger civil rights theme, and any of the significant "firsts" that were achieved in Bronzeville should be commemorated, and possibly grouped in ways that would aid in public education and tourism.

Bronzeville would also be well-advised to make connections to civil rights legacies found elsewhere in Chicago, notably the well-known housing campaign that brought **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.** to an apartment on the west side of Chicago in 1966 and a march in Marquette Park on the city's southwest side. While not all of Dr. King's time in Chicago was spent in Bronzeville, the issue that he was addressing, fair housing, was a defining feature in Bronzeville's growth, as the South Side was the original Black housing belt. Beyond a single issue, the south and west sides share essential features such as the role played by the Great Migration in shaping their neighborhoods. These similarities should allow cross-promotion, where groups in one area help to publicize relevant discussions, exhibits, or events in the other. Other stories that relate to Bronzeville, but are linked physically to other areas, include the rise of the **Nation of Islam** and Black Nationalism, and the emergence of **Reverend Jesse Jackson's**



**Rainbow PUSH** coalition as a political force from his beginning as a student protester and his work for Dr. King.

Nationally, the election of **President Barack Obama** represents the culmination of generations of civil rights struggles, including those endured by members of the Great Migration in Chicago. Because of the area's significance in the overall, national African-American story, there has been an ongoing discussion of locating President Obama's Presidential Library within Bronzeville, with several existing sites in suggested as suitable for the center.

## Business and Entrepreneurial Pursuits

The Great Migration period was a time of enormous opportunity for African-Americans. However, this opportunity did not come without hardship; pioneering African-Americans fought great racial tension as they began to support their own community. In the end, their accomplishments helped to develop the American economy, paving the way for Black-owned businesses and entrepreneurs today.

The formation of the "Black Wall Street," the cluster of banks and insurance companies that served as the financial foundation for the Black Metropolis, was a unique event in African-American history. For the first time, Black consumer power and investment was retained within the local community, resulting in massive growth and economic development, fueling the growth of Black corporate empires. Names such as Binga, Gillespie, Abbott and Overton were synonymous with entrepreneurship and enterprise, and several buildings remain as vestiges to their efforts. At 35<sup>th</sup> and State Streets, the **Supreme Life Insurance Building** now houses the **Bronzeville Visitor Information Center** and a branch of **Seaway Bank**, which was started by a Bronzeville storekeeper and anchors the **Black Metropolis-Bronzeville Historic District**, was the headquarters of the first African-American-owned insurance company in the northern United States. A few blocks away is the **Overton Hygienic Building**, headquarters of one of the nation's foremost producers of African-American cosmetics. This four-story structure also housed several of Anthony Overton's other business ventures, including the **Victory Life Insurance Company**, **Douglass National Bank**, the first nationally chartered, African-American-owned bank and *Chicago Bee* newspaper. It now serves as a small business incubator, with a focus on minority-owned technology and food startups.

Landmarks that have not survived along the South State Street business corridor include the **Binga Bank and Arcade**, the **J. Jordan Building**, and the **Knights of Pythias Building**, significant structures in the development of the Metropolis because they signaled a new, larger scale upon which Black business would operate. Moreover, all were built with Black capital, a new phenomenon for Chicago.

Tycoons weren't the only dynamic movers on the South Side, however; small businesses and entrepreneurs played a large role in the development of the community. The nation's first Black-owned hardware business, **J. T. H. Woods**, once occupied a plot at 36<sup>th</sup> and State Street, a

site that now sits in the shadow of **U.S. Cellular Field**, home of the Chicago White Sox, and CHA's **Park Boulevard** development, a mixed-use housing and retail development. On 47<sup>th</sup> Street, the **Ben Franklin Five & Ten Store** opened in the late 1937, breaking the color line and expanding the borders of the Metropolis. Today, 47<sup>th</sup> Street is undergoing redevelopment, and new shops and restaurants stand beside cultural institutions such as **Little Black Pearl Art Center** and the **Harold Washington Cultural Center**. Little Black Pearl is a thriving community arts center and design high school that attempts to marry artistic expression with education and entrepreneurship. The Cultural Center is a performing-arts venue and media education facility run by the City Colleges of Chicago. The Ben Franklin Store is being redeveloped as artist lofts and exhibit space.

The **Chatham-Greater Grand Crossing Commercial District** (a post-World War II expression of the dream of Black Metropolis), and named for its location spanning two south-side community areas, possesses one of the finest-surviving groupings of terra cotta-clad commercial buildings in Chicago; developed during the 1910s and -20s, the high point for the use of decorative terra cotta in Chicago. This collection of buildings retains a strong visual prominence today and is a reminder of the days when streetcars encouraged the development of neighborhood shopping districts.

Black consumer culture was an integral part of the Black Metropolis. Fueled by an unleashed sense of entrepreneurial and business agency and aided by a lack of interest from the established White business community, home-grown Black businesses emerged in variety of fields, from finance and retail to service and light manufacturing, vestiges of which can be seen through Bronzeville today. The availability of Black consumers spurred business owners to create products, both necessities and luxuries, which catered to their needs. The retail and service industries flourished, with a race-based localism permeating through the community, resulting in many residents preferring black-owned, Metropolis businesses and products. On the corner of 35<sup>th</sup> and Michigan Avenue, in a building that is currently occupied by the **De La Salle Institute**, a private high school, stood the Chicago offices of the **National Negro Business League**, an organization founded in 1900 by Booker T. Washington. The League catered to shop owners, doctors, farmers, craftsmen and other professionals; its mission was the promotion of the commercial and financial development of the Black community. Cooperating to advance black business interests was the local Associated Business Clubs (ABC) led by Abbott, Binga and Overton, Bronzeville's economic titans.

Newfound consumer awareness paved the way for businesses such as **John H. Johnson's** media and cosmetics business, including **Ebony** and **Jet** magazines and Fashion Fair cosmetics. Johnson's magazines promoted Blacks as viable consumers, and showcased both models of success and the struggles of Black life in America. Johnson began publishing his first magazine, the *Negro Digest* in 1942, with offices in the **Supreme Life Insurance Building**. *Ebony* magazine first appeared in 1945 and *Jet* in 1951. Johnson Publishing Company would become the world's largest Black-owned and operated publishing company.



## Opportunities

The **Black Metropolis-Bronzeville Historic District** was designated in 1997, and includes most of the existing structures associated with the Black Wall Street. While the City of Chicago has created the self-guided **African-American History Tour**, there is an opportunity to expand on the narrative of the Black Metropolis by highlighting thematic connections between the existing historic district and other structures and sites within Bronzeville.

The Historic District's focus on business and civic achievement fits nicely with the aims of local economic development agencies that promote Bronzeville's history, along with other more pragmatic assets, in order to attract investment. Several recent planning efforts have focused on the revitalization of Bronzeville's historic commercial corridors, with 47<sup>th</sup> Street singled out as the target area for new commercial development. Bronzeville's traditional retail strips are endowed with great access to transit and the nearby expressway, as well as unparalleled proximity to downtown Chicago. Through NHA designation, heritage preservation and cultivation can serve as additional draws for investors.

The fact that the many of the Black Wall Street's buildings no longer stand makes it harder for visitors and residents to appreciate the significance of the Metropolis. However, there are a number of ways a coordinating entity could continue to share the legacy of the structures that no longer exist, an effort to develop heritage area signage and markers to mark and tell the story of these buildings. Those buildings that do remain, like the Supreme Life Insurance Building serves testament to the great enterprise shown by Chicagoans such as Jesse Binga and Anthony Overton through its current tenant, the **Bronzeville Visitor Information Center** (BVIC). The BVIC is dedicated to telling the story of the neighborhood's history, and it sits at an ideal location for welcoming visitors to Bronzeville, on the corner of 35<sup>th</sup> and King Drive. From this spot, one can continue west to State Street, formerly called the "the Stroll", or travel King Drive to get a feel for historic Bronzeville. Greater coordination with other groups in the community and possibly investment in this resource by the City or other entities could allow the Center to fill a much needed gap in interpreting and presenting Bronzeville's sites and story.

## Industry and Labor

The NPS framework describes how the diverse working experiences of Americans have helped to shape and develop the economy, and this rings true to the experience of African-Americans in Chicago. While racially restrictive housing covenants relegated most African-Americans to living in Chicago's Black Belt, the jobs they held were predominantly in the steel and meatpacking industries. As described in the history section, Blacks were recruited to work in northern factories and were a cheap source of labor, which impacted the growth of the labor movement in the early 20th century.

Interestingly, one of the most important sites in the Great Migration is outside of the study area, in the nearby Union Stockyards complex. The **Stockyard Gates**, at Peoria and Exchange Streets, are all that remain of what was formerly an expansive industrial zone. The meat-packing industry and its spin-offs, along with the burgeoning **South Side Steel Works**, actively



recruited southern Blacks when faced with labor shortages during World War I. They brought them to Chicago in the thousands, at times paying for migrant transportation on the **Illinois Central Railroad**. This great movement of workers, and their families, changed the ethnic makeup of the workplace and the neighborhoods of the South Side. It also gave management a strategic advantage in negotiations with labor unions, most of which refused Black membership, forming the parameters of racial labor conflicts in Chicago.

Bronzeville became the Black housing belt as stockyards and other workers sought convenient housing nearby. Worker housing came in the form of “kitchenette” units in apartment buildings, two-and three-flats, single-family homes, and low-quality tenements in the vicinity of the railroad. However, one of the few surviving collections of row houses on the South Side, the **Calumet Giles Prairie District** has been designated as a Chicago landmark, with buildings dating from the late-19th and early-20th centuries including early works by Louis H. Sullivan and Frank Lloyd Wright. This neighborhood is often referred to as the “Gap,” due to its survival in the midst of widespread demolition and redevelopment that brought public housing to the area in the 1960s. In recent years, the area has undergone substantial rehabilitation, including construction of many new “infill” residences. The **National Public Housing Museum** will describe the processes that brought public housing to the South Side in the Ida B. Wells Homes, among other themes, when it opens in 2013 at 1322-24 W. Taylor, northwest of the study area. The Museum will occupy the last remaining building of the Jane Addams Homes on the near west side.

Another side of the Metropolis’ industrial origins comes through in Bronzeville’s historic mansions. The **Gustavus Swift House**, a marriage present from the packing magnate to his young daughter, sits at 4500 S. Michigan Avenue. Swift was an innovator in the meatpacking business, responsible in large part for the wide range of ancillary businesses that emerged to utilize discarded portions of butchered animals – products such as margarine, soap, glue, fertilizer, pharmaceuticals, and canned food products. Fellow meatpacker Philip Danforth Armour, the richest man in Chicago, built his mansion in the fashionable **Prairie Avenue District**, in the northernmost section of the study area, where today one can find several preserved mansions.

A small slice of South Side industrial life can be experienced in the **Cermak Road Bridge District**, near the study area’s northern boundary. This small area is the finest intact, early 20th-century riverfront industrial precinct in Chicago. It contains four large industrial buildings, clustered around the Cermak Road Bridge, which is the City’s last-remaining double leaf Scherzer Rolling Lift Bridge. The District commemorates the importance of the Chicago River in the economic development of the City and conveys how the interconnected river and rail network made Chicago a national center of commerce.

No discussion of the Black Metropolis or the Great Migration is complete without mentioning the engine that drove Chicago’s growth, and particularly that of the South Side: the railroad. Thousands of migrants disembarked from the **Illinois Central Railroad** and took their first steps on Chicago soil at the 12<sup>th</sup> Street Station, just north of the study area. South of the study



area sits another historic railroad site, the company town of Pullman and the home of the **A. Phillip Randolph Pullman Porter Museum**. George Pullman's factory manufactured train and trolley cars, and the company also staffed the cars in service. Starting shortly after the American Civil War, he sought out former slaves to work on his sleeper cars, the job being among the best available to African-Americans in the Jim Crow era. Porters often carried copies of the *Chicago Defender* to southern communities along the rail lines, with the paper's editorializing spurring the Great Migration. The porters' labor union, the **Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters** organized by A. Philip Randolph, was one of the most powerful African-American labor entities of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

The story of industry on the South Side, crucial to the development of the Metropolis and the Great Migration story, can be experienced at the **Museum of Science and Industry**, along the lakefront at 57<sup>th</sup> Street. Originally built as the Palace of Fine Arts for the **World's Columbian Exposition of 1893**, the museum now holds more than 35,000 artifacts and nearly 14 acres of hands-on exhibits. Installations such as the *Coal Mine*, a permanent exhibit featuring an actual ride to the bottom of a mine shaft, illustrate the Museum's mission of education through experience.

### **Opportunities**

With the Stockyards complex gone and no major freight rail facilities within the study area, Bronzeville's industrial infrastructure is less prominent than in days gone by. However, several formerly industrial facilities have been retrofitted for new uses, like the conversion of the **R.R. Donnelly Plant** into the **Lakeside Technology Center**. There are still many opportunities for this sort of rehabilitation of existing infrastructure. Moreover, connecting with historic industrial and labor sites and organizations outside of the study area can help to illustrate their relationship to the Great Migration, and the growth of the Black Metropolis.

The 113-year-old **Forum building** at 43rd Street and Calumet Avenue has a rich labor history, hosting Communist Party meetings in the 1920s and 1930s, and the first unionized Black stockyards workers. At the Forum in 1944, the national convention of the African-American lodges of the then-segregated Elks spoke out against racism, Jim Crow and intolerance. The structure came close to being demolished by the City in 2011, when inspectors found extensive structural damage and loose, falling bricks. Now a new owner, Bronzeville developer Bernard Loyd, is attempting to create a community destination that will not only aid in local preservation efforts, but also serve as a meeting and performance venue.

A "green" link to Bronzeville's past can be found in the increasing numbers of community gardens and urban agriculture sites in the area. Several Bronzeville groups, including the **51<sup>st</sup> Street Business Association**, **Bronzeville Alliance's Green Team**, and **Centers for New Horizons**, are looking to agriculture as an emerging industry and growth opportunity for the area, one that capitalizes on the availability of vacant land and an underserved local food market. Some of this land, like areas along the Englewood Line to Bronzeville's west, is reclaimed industrial or railroad property. Other plots are located in residential neighborhoods.



The **Bronzeville Community Garden** is located right on busy 51<sup>st</sup> Street, across the street from **Bronzeville Cookin'**, a culinary incubator and restaurant collection to which the garden is linked. Another garden, at 48<sup>th</sup> and King Drive, is operated by local non-profit **Sacred Keepers Sustainability Lab**, and is reserved strictly for youth gardeners. The organization supplements the gardening experience with sustainability instruction in its nearby "lab", an interactive classroom.



## Chapter 4: Affected Environment

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) mandates that federal agencies analyze the impacts of major federal actions that have a significant effect on the environment. The National Park Service Director's Order 12 outlines options for meeting the requirements of NEPA depending on the severity of the environmental impacts of the alternatives.

This study is being undertaken by a local community-based coalition. The coalition is not proposing any physical changes to the study area. Therefore, it has been determined that a "categorical exclusion for which no formal documentation is necessary" is the most appropriate NEPA option for the study area. The categorical exclusion states that:

*Legislative proposals of an administrative or technical nature — for example, changes in authorizations for appropriations; minor boundary changes and land transactions; proposals that would have primarily economic, social, individual, or institutional effects; and comments and reports on referrals of legislative proposals. (DO-12 Handbook, National Park Service 2005)*

The study matches this exclusion because, at this time, no designation has been made. If Congress decides to designate the Black Metropolis as a NHA, then a comprehensive management plan would need to be developed for the area. Whether an environmental assessment will ultimately be required will depend on the types of projects, programs, and other actions proposed in the management plan. As of today, this study primarily focuses on economic and social activities for the proposed heritage area.

While there are not presently any proposals to change the physiology of the area, it is important to understand the local environment. This chapter was developed in partnership with IDNR, to better understand the physical environmental (including land, air, and water), as well as the local ecosystem (including vegetation, animals, and protected lands), and the opportunities there are to collaborate on protection and increased stewardship.

### **Land form and Physiography**

The study area is located in the urban environment, within the city of Chicago. Located at an elevation of 600 feet above sea level, the area is generally flat (USGS 2012). The study area is also located in the Chicago Lake Plain. The Chicago Lake Plain is an extensive plain that was either completely or partially submerged in the geologic past. This submergence occurred during a series of phases of high water levels of ancestral Lake Michigan, and its predecessor glacial Lake Chicago.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), 2011. Illinois Coastal Management Program. <http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/cmp/Pages/documentation.aspx>.



## **Water Resources**

### **Rivers and Water Bodies**

There are no rivers within the study area. The Chicago River is located 0.3 miles to the northwest corner of the study area. Since there are no rivers or streams within the study area, there are no impaired waterways.

The study area includes 3.82 miles of Lake Michigan shoreline that has been artificially hardened with step stone and rubblemound revetments. There are two beaches (31<sup>st</sup> Street beach and Oakwood Beach) and two harbors (Burnham Harbor and 31<sup>st</sup> Street Harbor) located in the study area.

There are six small ponds in the study area, covering a total of 43.27 acres. Two ponds are located in Washington Park while the other four ponds are located in Oak Woods Cemetery. Washington Park contains an irregularly-shaped lagoon and a smaller casting pond just north of the lagoon, comprising 32.76 acres of aquatic habitat. These water bodies are man-made features, with aquatic and wetland plants present along some of the shoreline.<sup>2</sup> Ponds at Oak Woods Cemetery contain large amount of algae vegetation and are lined by turf grass or narrow band of shoreline herbaceous vegetation. The Oak Wood Cemetery ponds comprise 10.51 acres of aquatic habitat.<sup>3</sup> The ponds at Washington Park and Oakwood Cemetery are not connected to other waterways.

### **Water Quality**

Along the shoreline, the 31<sup>st</sup> Street Beach has been identified by Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) to have non-attainment status for primary contact recreation.<sup>4</sup> In 2010 and 2011, closures and advisories at the beach were attributed to publicly owned treatment works, combined sewer overflows, and unknown sources.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> City of Chicago 2005. Chicago Habitat Directory, Washington Park. See [http://www.cityofchicago.org/dam/city/depts/zlup/Sustainable\\_Development/Publications/Chicago\\_Nature\\_and\\_Wildlife\\_Plan/Washington\\_Park\\_Lagoon\\_and\\_Casting\\_Pond.pdf](http://www.cityofchicago.org/dam/city/depts/zlup/Sustainable_Development/Publications/Chicago_Nature_and_Wildlife_Plan/Washington_Park_Lagoon_and_Casting_Pond.pdf).

<sup>3</sup> City of Chicago 2005. Chicago Habitat Directory, Oak Woods Cemetery. See [http://www.cityofchicago.org/dam/city/depts/zlup/Sustainable\\_Development/Publications/Chicago\\_Nature\\_and\\_Wildlife\\_Plan/Oak\\_Woods\\_Cemetery\\_Ponds.pdf](http://www.cityofchicago.org/dam/city/depts/zlup/Sustainable_Development/Publications/Chicago_Nature_and_Wildlife_Plan/Oak_Woods_Cemetery_Ponds.pdf).

<sup>4</sup> The IEPA uses the number and duration of beach closures (i.e., swim bans) to assess whether the beaches are supporting use designations for primary contact recreation. Within Illinois, Lake Michigan Beaches are found to be “not supporting” of primary contact use when, on average over a three year period, (1) there is one bathing area closure (i.e., swim advisory where no swimming is advised or swim ban) per year of less than 1 week’s duration or (2) there is one bathing area closure per year of greater than 1 week’s duration or more than one bathing area closure per year. Based on IEPA’s methodology, 31<sup>st</sup> Street Beach was not supporting primary contact use (IEPA 2013).

<sup>5</sup> Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) 2013. Total Maximum Daily Load. Shoreline Segments in Chicago, Cook County, Illinois. See <http://illinoisgreenfleets.org/water/tmdl/report/lake-michigan-beaches/final-draft-chicago.pdf>.



According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Toxic Release Inventory database, there are no known industrial discharges into the area's water. There are two permitted National Pollution Discharge Elimination System sources in the study area, both of which are at the northern end and discharge into Lake Michigan. The Metropolitan Pier and Exposition Authority discharges non-contact cooling water and monitors for flow and pH only, while McCormick Place West Hall discharges treated groundwater and monitors for flow, solids, pH, and offensive conditions.<sup>6</sup> The other expected sources of water pollution are typical urban nonpoint sources, roads, lawns, and harbors.

Stormwater in the majority of the study area is collected in the City's stormwater conveyance system and discharged through the treatment plant into waterways flowing away from Lake Michigan. Parts of Burnham Park, located along the shoreline, as well as the water from roadways and walkways in the Park, drain to the lake.<sup>7</sup>

The Illinois Lake Michigan Implementation Plan (ILMIP) is a collaborative effort of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), Alliance for the Great Lakes, Chicago Wilderness, and the Biodiversity Project to create an agenda for the restoration and protection of Lake Michigan coastal resources in Illinois. The ILMIP informs funding decisions for coastal initiatives, including federal (e.g. Great Lakes Restoration Initiative), state (e.g. Illinois Coastal Zone Management Program), and local environmental projects within the Illinois Lake Michigan watershed.

### ***Air Quality***

The IEPA is the state agency responsible for ensuring clean air in Illinois. IEPA tests air quality, and develops and implements policies and plans to reduce air pollution and improve air quality. Chicago air quality has improved significantly over the past decade and continued improvement is expected in the future. The City meets air quality standards for most pollutants regulated under the Clean Air Act; however, ozone and particulate matter (specifically lead) continue to be a health and environmental concern in the study area. In 2011, the IEPA recommended that parts of Chicago be designated as non-attainment for the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) based on monitored air quality data collected in Cook County between 2008 and 2010.

Chicago is classified as 'Marginal' under the 8-hour 2008 national standards for Ozone and as 'nonattainment' for both PM-2.5 and Lead. According to the 2011 IEPA Air Quality Report, one of the four state monitoring stations in the City of Chicago, located at Perez Elementary School (1241 W. 19<sup>th</sup> Street, AQS ID 17310110), is failing to meet the NAAQS lead standards. Perez Elementary is located in close proximity to the study area. This can be directly attributed to the location of industrial facilities like H. Kramer & Company, which primarily manufactures brass and copper products. In 2012, EPA identified six leading stationary sources of lead emissions in

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<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid.

the City based on 2008 national emissions inventory that emit 0.1 tpy or greater of lead. The total emissions included emissions from airport facilities that use leaded aviation fuel.

In order to meet NAAQS, Illinois, Cook County, and the City of Chicago are actively pursuing a variety of approaches including; clean school bus programs, climate change initiatives, strict emission standards, promotion of public transportation, and clean car regulations. Chicago has developed a number of plans including the Chicago Climate Action Plan and the 2015 Sustainable Chicago Action Agenda to improve air quality, among other sustainability-related goals.

Within the study area, air quality concerns are dominated by local sources of pollution including concerns about emissions from the adjacent Dan Ryan Expressway and particulates from the demolition of high-rise public housing buildings. The lack of adequate information and data on such emissions limits the community's ability to advocate for improvements. As a result, the Bronzeville community created a coalition called the Bronzeville Air Quality and Public Health Partnership to address concerns of air pollution and negative respiratory health impacts through a combination of community health education and community-driven research on air pollution and related health effects. The partnership is made of environmental researchers, residents, activists, public agencies, medical professionals, and community leaders.

## **Ecosystems**

### **Watershed**

The study area is primarily located in the Chicago River watershed (Hydrologic Unit Code [HUC] 07120003), South Branch subwatershed (HUC 071200030107). Historically, water from the watershed flowed into Lake Michigan. Construction of the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal in 1900 linked the South Branch of the Chicago River to the Des Plaines River and allowed for gravity-driven reversed flow away from Lake Michigan.<sup>8</sup>

A small section of the study area located along Lake Michigan's shoreline is in the Pike-Root watershed (HUC 04040002), Oak Woods Cemetery-Frontal Lake Michigan subwatershed (HUC 040400020503), with water in the watershed flowing towards Lake Michigan. There is no floodplain within the study area.

### **Unique Resources**

The study area is located along the Mississippi River flyway system. Each year, more than 250 species of migratory birds use this flyway to travel between wintering grounds in the south and breeding grounds in the north. In the study area, birds travel along the shoreline of Lake Michigan and use the open spaces as stopover points to rest and feed (City of Chicago 2006). Based on records maintained by the Audubon Society and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, in

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<sup>8</sup> Ibid.

2012 there were 137 species of birds observed in Burnham Park and Washington Park, with most species observed during spring and fall migration season.<sup>9</sup>

A small population of gray foxes (*Urocyon cinereoargenteus*) has been documented in Oak Woods Cemetery (Chicago Wilderness 2005; Willingham 2008). The fox resembles a small dog, weighing between 5 and 14 pounds, and is the only North American canine that climbs trees (IDNR 2006). The animals are most common in west-central and southern Illinois and are rare throughout the Chicago region (Willingham 2008). Washington Park ponds are used by wood ducks (*Aix sponsa*), a particularly colorful species of duck that was almost extinct in the early 1900's but that has since recovered (City of Chicago 2005a).

Morgan Shoal is a shallow limestone formation in Lake Michigan that extends along the shoreline between 45<sup>th</sup> Street and 51<sup>st</sup> Street. Only partially located in the study area (study area extends to 47<sup>th</sup> Street), the formation includes a rich aquatic system and a shipwreck off of 49<sup>th</sup> Street.

## **Vegetation and Endangered Plant Species**

### **Endangered Species**

Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) database was checked for presence of protected species in May 2013. There are no federally or state listed endangered or threatened plant species in the study area.

### **Native or Common Plant Species**

The most common woody species growing along Chicago's street and boulevards include white ash (*Fraxinus Americana*), mulberry (*Morus* spp), green ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*), tree of heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*), and silver maple (*Acer saccharinum*). In Chicago parks, the most common woody species include green ash, European buckthorn (*Rhamnus cathartica*), hawthorn (*Crataegus* spp), sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*), and buckthorn (*Rhamnus* spp) (USDA 2010). Tree species data specific to the study area was not obtained but the study area is expected to have a similar composition of woody vegetation as the rest of the city. In addition to the above-mentioned common tree species, large white and burr oaks are found in the Oak Woods Cemetery (City of Chicago 2005b).

### **Invasive Species**

Invasive plant species can dominate, disrupt and threaten native plant systems, thereby causing economic and environmental harm. Most common invasive plants species occurring in the study area include buckthorn, honeysuckle (*Lonicera* spp), common reed (*Phragmites australis*),

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<sup>9</sup> eBird 2013. Audubon and Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Custom report for Burnham Park and Washington Park, Chicago. Date range: Jan 1, 2012 – Dec 31, 2012. See <http://ebird.org/ebird/summaryLocation.form>.

reed canary grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*), and garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*). Chicago Park District is actively managing these species within the parks. In addition to CPD, the Washington Park Conservancy group organizes stewardship activities in the park, including workdays to increase native plantings.

## **Wildlife and Endangered Animal Species**

### **Endangered Species**

Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) database was checked for presence of protected species in May 2013. There are no federally or state listed endangered or threatened wildlife species in the study area.

### **Native or Common Wildlife Species**

The area contains resident mammal species typically associated with an urban environment: rodents (mice and rats), gray squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*), rabbit, raccoon (*Procyon lotor*), opossum (*Didelphis marsupialis*), and coyote (*Canis latrans*). Among songbirds nesting in the City, the common ones include northern cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis*), house wren (*Troglodytes aedon*), and mourning doves (*Zenaidura macroura*) (Pollock, nd). Canada geese (*Branta Canadensis*) are commonly seen waterfowl. During the migratory season, the area supports large numbers of migrating passerine and waterfowl birds. Washington Park lagoon is stocked with fish by Illinois Department of Natural Resources as part of its Urban Fishing Program. Fish species in the lagoon (stocked and non-stocked) include largemouth bass (*Micropterus salmoides*), bluegill (*Lepomis macrochirus*), sunfish (*Lepomis* spp), crappie (*Pomoxis* spp), carp (*Cyprinus carpio*), and catfish (*Ictalurus punctatus*).

### **Connectivity for Wildlife**

The urban environment fragments habitat and provides many obstacles for wildlife moving through the area. Burnham Park and Lake Michigan provide habitat connectivity along the lakefront. Washington Park attracts and provides habitat for migrating birds due to its large green space in the urban environment. Washington Park habitat is further significant since a wide green boulevard, Midway Plaisance, connects the southeast side of Washington Park to Jackson Park and the lakeshore, thus providing opportunity for movement of terrestrial wildlife. There are no aquatic connections to Oakwood Cemetery ponds or Washington Park lagoons.

### **Invasive Species**

Asian carp (*Hypophthalmichthys* spp) and zebra and quagga mussels (*Dreissena* spp) are a cause for concern throughout the Great Lakes, including the shoreline within the study area. Illinois Department of Natural Resources has a program in place working to keep Asian carp from reaching Lake Michigan through the Ship and Sanitary Canal. Emerald ash borer (*Agrilus planipennis*) is one invasive insect that threatens the ash tree population in Chicago. The ash borer was discovered in Chicago in 2008. Starting in 2013, City of Chicago is planning to treat



parkway ash trees with an insecticide in an effort to save ash trees in the city (Levy 2013). As noted above, ashes have been commonly planted as both street trees and in Chicago parks.

## ***Protected Lands***

### **Open Space and Green Space**

There are approximately 992 acres of green space in the study area. Chicago Park District (CPD) owns 807 acres in the study area.

Washington Park, the largest green space within the study area, consists of 367 acres. The original plans for the Park were developed in 1871. The Park converted open prairie-wetland space into a meadow-like open pasture, accented by connecting lagoons. Today, the open pasture in the north section of the Park has been converted to baseball diamonds and open fields, with trees along the periphery. The southern section contains natural areas comprised of marsh, pond, woodland, grassland, and savannah habitat.

The second largest park within the study area is Burnham Park, with 327 acres inside the study area boundaries. Burnham Park extends along the lakefront beyond the study area for a total of 609 acres. The Park contains McCormick Bird Sanctuary, located at 2400 S. Lake Shore Drive, and Burnham Nature Sanctuary, located at 4700 S. Lake Shore Drive. These two natural areas within Burnham Park have been restored to provide important native habitat to wildlife. McCormick Bird Sanctuary was built in 2003 and this 6-acre plot was designed to attract birds and includes a mix of native prairie, shrub, and woodland plants. The Burnham Nature Sanctuary is a 10-acre site that contains prairie, grassland, oak savanna, and a butterfly garden. Restoration at the site began in 1998 and management is ongoing.

Burnham Centennial Prairie is an ongoing restoration effort within Burnham Park. Once complete, the prairie will span 56 acres, extending from the McCormick Bird Sanctuary to Burnham Nature Sanctuary. As of June 2013, restoration has been completed from Bird Sanctuary to 35<sup>th</sup> Street.

Additional ongoing restoration efforts within Burnham Park include establishment of Burnham Wildlife Corridor, a 40-acre restoration of prairie and woodland habitat between the railroad tracks and Lake Shore Drive. The Burnham Wildlife Corridor will stretch from 31<sup>st</sup> Street to 47<sup>th</sup> Street and will be located entirely within the study area. Planned restoration includes removal of existing woody species and planting of 125,000 oak trees in fall 2013. Oaks and fruit-bearing shrubs will provide food and resting spots to migrating birds, and some species expected to use the habitat include woodcocks, warblers, hawks, and owls. It is estimated that numbers of birds landing along the corridor could be in the thousands (Rotenberk 2013).

## **Trails**

There are multiple walking and multi-use trails located within Washington Park. Chicago Lakefront Trail is located along the shore in the study area, in Burnham Park. The 18-mile-long Lakefront Trail extends from Hollywood Avenue several miles north of the study area, to 71st Street on the south, with approximately four miles of the Lakefront Trail are located in the study area.

## **Entities Engaged in Protection of Resources**

The Chicago Park District (CPD) is the major landowner of open space in the study area. CPD actively engages in protection, preservation, and mitigation efforts on park lands. In the study area, current CPD efforts include installation of Burnham Centennial Prairie and planned restoration as part of Burnham Wildlife Corridor. Volunteer groups, such as the Washington Park Conservancy group, have been assisting the CPD in conservation and stewardship efforts.

The study area is also part of Millennium Reserve: Calumet Core Initiative; with a focus on improving the ecology, community, and economy of the region. The Millennium Reserve's goal is to catalyze innovative partnerships and action in the Calumet region. Governor Pat Quinn and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources launched Millennium Reserve in late 2011. It is part of President Obama's America's Great Outdoors initiative, which aims to align federal programs with locally-developed conservation and recreation goals.



# Chapter 5: Management Alternatives

This section evaluates three management alternatives for the proposed heritage area. Each alternative explores the potential to protect the heritage resources, to secure funding, build partnerships, and bring groups together to tell the story of the Black Metropolis. The three alternatives include a no action scenario, a government-run heritage area, and designation as a NHA.

## Alternative 1: What if no federal action is taken?

If, at the end of this feasibility study process, federal designation is not granted, the story and landscape of the Black Metropolis will endure. Failure to receive national designation would not be the first barrier the Commission has encountered. Local organizations will continue their independent efforts to preserve the heritage, stories, and physical landscape of the Black Metropolis. **This alternative assumes that business as usual will continue in the community; local community-based organizations will continue to preserve local heritage, although they will operate without high-level coordination.**

### ***Community-based organizations***

A number of community-based organizations in Bronzeville have developed local events and programming activities focused on historic themes that are cited as goals of the heritage area. These events and activities occur throughout the year within the study area and include historic tours, lectures, and educational programming. Looking forward, the Partnership will continue its mission of promoting heritage and cultural tourism, educating visitors on the legacy of the Great Migration. The Bronzeville Visitor Information Center will continue to be a central information portal for Bronzeville community events and activities, and other community-based organizations will continue to work in the neighborhood on a variety of issues including community development, economic development, education, housing, and more.

### ***Institutions***

Chicago is home to many major institutions that house historic artifacts that document the story of African-Americans in Chicago; some of these institutions include: the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago History Museum, DuSable Museum of African-American History, and the Museum of Science and Industry. In addition to museums, there are a number of higher education institutions whose faculty and former students are well-known African-Americans. From special collections, to curriculum, and renowned historians and professors, educational institutions like the University of Chicago, Illinois Institute of Technology, and Roosevelt University are closely tied to the story of Black Metropolis-Bronzeville.

Over the years, these institutions have developed a number of exhibits and educational resources, attracting students, tourists, and historians from across the country and around the world. One of the benefits of having a wealth of arts and educational institutions is that many have the capacity to develop scholarly research and programming in-house as part of their missions. From time-to-time, there have been coordinated efforts to connect institutional exhibits to local history. This presents an opportunity to drive local economic development and tourism. A recent example is the Art Institute's exhibit "They Seek a City: Chicago and the Art of Migration, 1910 – 1950." This exhibit highlighted works of art birthed in the Black Metropolis – drawing thousands of visitors – yet lacked the direct tie back to the physical location of the Great Migration, which is located less than five miles from the Art Institute. The coordination of opportunities like this requires more staff capacity than local organizations have today.

### **Government**

The three most involved government entities in the area to date are the State of Illinois (through the Illinois Bureau of Tourism and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources), City of Chicago, and local Alderman.

#### **State of Illinois**

In 2000, the Illinois Bureau of Tourism (IBOT), Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO), and the Illinois Tourism Alliance teamed up to attract African-American tourists to Illinois. The result of this partnership has been a multi-year statewide tourism campaign called "African-American Heritage & History in Illinois." This effort included the publication of an African-American travel guide, *The Soul of Illinois*, and an accompanying website.<sup>1</sup> Bronzeville events, institutions, and activities are actively promoted on this site.

Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) is tasked with overseeing costal management, conservation, and urban and community forestry, among other environmental responsibilities for the State. In relation to the study area, IDNR manages the Illinois Costal Zone Boundary, which focuses strictly on the physical and environmental landscape included in this area. There are a number of opportunities, including small native garden planting, continued restoration of Burnham Wildlife Corridor, and citizen scientist programs, that the community could get involved with in partnership with IDNR.

#### **City of Chicago**

The City of Chicago, through its many divisions and departments, including the Commission on Chicago Landmarks, Cultural Affairs and Special Events (DCASE) and DHED, can advance heritage assets in the Black Metropolis-Bronzeville area through preservation, event programming, and land use and economic development planning for specific corridors. The Commission on Chicago Landmarks has designated a number of sites and districts in the study area as landmarks and continues to assist in preservation efforts. DCASE coordinates the Gospel Music Festival, the Blues Music Festival, and other festivals that celebrate the rich music

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<sup>1</sup>See <http://www.illinoistourism.org/soul/>.



and cultural heritage of the area. DHED continues to assist local planning efforts as the planning department of the City, and also assists with implementation activities on past planning efforts referenced in Chapter 1.

### **Alderman**

There are six Chicago wards located within the study area (wards 3, 4, 5, 6, 11, and 20). Aldermen are tasked with representing the interests of ward residents, and serve on City Council. Aldermanic support for this project has varied, and is directly correlated with percentage of each ward encapsulated within the study area boundary. The majority of the study area falls within three wards: Ward 3, Alderman Pat Dowell; Ward 4, Alderman William Burns; and Ward 20, Alderman Willie Cochran. Aldermen would continue to provide support for local events and activities in each of their respective wards. In the past, this has included verbal and written support, meeting space, and in some cases liaising between the wards and the City of Chicago on events planning.

### **Assessment**

The history of the Black Metropolis and Bronzeville is peppered with a legacy of community strength and determination. From early social service agencies to the locally-generated economy, Bronzeville residents have overcome many obstacles. Even as urban renewal tore at the seams of the community, community activists came together to preserve Bronzeville's historic buildings with the understanding that the community's place in history was important to preserve. Since then, the number of community-based organizations with missions related to the preservation and interpretation of Black Metropolis-Bronzeville has grown exponentially. It is anticipated that without federal designation, this multitude of local champions will continue to beat the drum, letting Chicagoans know the history of African-Americans in Bronzeville.

The strength of the community, as it relates to the proposed heritage area, is truly the partnerships forged around the numerous heritage area themes. Organizations and institutions located in and around Bronzeville have developed partnerships around educational tours and programming to share the story of Chicago's role in African-American history. Today, this programming is, for the most part, local in nature – attended in large part by Chicago residents. There are, however, a few state-wide initiatives that highlight the Black Metropolis' role in the Great Migration. In addition to the State's African-American tourism promotion, the next state-wide initiative will be the Great Migration Centennial celebration in 2016.

Currently, there are numerous local organizations competing for limited grant-funds for a variety of projects. Without a coordinating entity, community-based organizations seeking funding for such a broad range of projects presents a challenge to strategically implement heritage area goals and activities. While many community-based organizations share a number of cultural values, each organization has a unique mission and limited capacity to take on broader goals of the heritage area. Without a coordinated voice from the Bronzeville

community, opportunities to tie major institutional programming into local events and activities will most likely continue to go on, albeit separately.

**It is anticipated that without a strong coordinating entity, whose mission dedicated to broad-based engagement, the heritage area will not be able to reach its fullest potential.** Therefore, the ‘no federal action’ alternative will see the continuation of preservation of heritage area resources, with limited ability to secure funding, build partnerships and bring groups together to tell the story of the Black Metropolis and the Great Migration. Many organizations have spent years attempting to engage the broader Chicago community in a dialogue on their history with small wins but overall limited success. Without federal designation as a heritage area, a coordinated organization with broad community-based support, seems unlikely. The ability of community-based organizations to engage the nation in the story of the legacy of the Black Metropolis will be limited.

## **Alternative 2: Could a local government operate a heritage area in Bronzeville?**

The PAC also explored what might happen if the Black Metropolis heritage area was preserved and promoted through a local unit of government – city, county, or state. **Under this alternative it is assumed the unit of government responsible for oversight would manage the heritage area by designating a department or agency to lead the implementation of proposed heritage area activities.**

### ***Community-based organizations***

In the City of Chicago there are a number of organizations – called delegate organizations – which receive Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding distributions from the City’s federal CDBG allocation. These organizations receive this funding because their “objectives include small business development, site development or area-wide marketing, maintenance and management within a specified commercial business district.”<sup>2</sup>

There are seven delegate organizations that are located within or share a boundary with the proposed heritage area. Each delegate organization represents a variety of local interests – from business support to land use planning. Delegate organizations in or near the study area have limited staff (averaging four employees), and each has a board of directors providing oversight of the organization’s work. A number of the delegate organizations have been major participants in past planning efforts in the community; in fact, many are actively working in the neighborhood to implement recommendations of these plans. Delegate agencies, like chambers, are particularly successful at building partnerships and economic support for local businesses and could utilize this skill set to support a government coordinated heritage area. Delegate organizations that have overlapping boundaries with the study area are:

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<sup>2</sup> See [http://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/dcd/supp\\_info/delegate\\_agencieseconomicdevelopment.html](http://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/dcd/supp_info/delegate_agencieseconomicdevelopment.html).

- 51<sup>st</sup> Street Business Association
- Hyde Park Chamber of Commerce
- Near South Planning Board
- Quad Communities Development Corporation
- The Renaissance Collaborative, Inc.
- South East Chicago Commission
- South Loop Chamber of Commerce

### ***Institutions***

Major arts and educational institutions could support a government coordinated heritage area through programing partnerships and providing tangible resources like space for events and activities or shared marketing. The largest institution in the study area is IIT, a private research university. IIT has been a partner on this project since its inception providing committee meeting rooms and public meeting space. IIT has a particularly strong architecture program and therefore would be best suited to participate in historic preservation or arts and culture themes of the heritage area.

### ***Government***

The three likely government entities considered to coordinate heritage area activities are the State of Illinois, City of Chicago, and local Alderman.

### ***State of Illinois***

If the State were to become the coordinating entity of the heritage area, it is likely that a department of the State would be assigned the responsibility. The two departments that would be the most likely candidates are the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR).

DCEO presently oversees the Illinois Office of Tourism, which is responsible for the State's tourism website,<sup>3</sup> providing Illinois travel guides, along with a calendar of festivals, and events across the state. DCEO also oversees the campaign for African-American Heritage and History in Illinois.<sup>4</sup> This campaign already promotes many of Bronzeville's partners, such as the Bronzeville Visitor Information Center, DuSable Museum, and Willie Dixon's Blues Heaven Foundation (former Chess Records Studio).

IDNR's relationship to the heritage area is primarily focused on environmental preservation and education. The study area falls within the Calumet Core Initiative of the Millennium Reserve project. The Millennium Reserve: Calumet Core is a 220-square mile project with a goal to catalyze partnerships, honor the area's industrial past, restore the natural ecosystem, and

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<sup>3</sup> See [www.enjoyillinois.org](http://www.enjoyillinois.org).

<sup>4</sup> See [www.illinoistourism.org/soul](http://www.illinoistourism.org/soul).



create sustainable economic growth.<sup>5</sup> The proposed Black Metropolis-Bronzeville heritage area is located at the northern most point of this initiative's boundary and could stand as the gateway from the City into the Millennium Reserve.

### **City of Chicago**

City departments most likely to coordinate heritage area activities would be DCASE, which focuses on arts and educational events across the city, and DHED, which houses the City's economic development, historic preservation, land use, and sustainability planning.

### **Ward Alderman**

As mentioned in the first alternative, there are six Chicago wards located within the study area. The three Aldermen who represent the majority of the study area (Dowell, Burns, and Cochran) are in support of local-heritage-area activities, but lack the resources to focus full-time energy on building partnerships and seeking financial support for the heritage area. However, local Aldermen need to be partners on this project because they can help pave the way for increased preservation and local events and activities.

### **Assessment**

If a government organization were to take the lead on coordinating and implementing heritage area initiatives, it would be imperative that the government entity partner with a local organization to reach residents, organizations, and other stakeholders. While it is within the City's means to task delegate agencies with various activities, the primary focus of local delegate agencies is economic development; therefore, coordinating heritage area activities without an increase in funding would be difficult. Another downside to tapping a delegate organization to coordinate the heritage area is that there is no one delegate that is presently responsible for the entirety of the proposed heritage area.

A City- or State-operated heritage area could be a valuable partnership and could still be pursued for the Black Metropolis-Bronzeville area, regardless of whether or not the area is granted a federal NHA designation. While planning for it would require a separate process, this feasibility study could serve as an initial step and a valuable reference as it contains information that is potentially relevant to both designations. A State- or City-operated heritage area is likely to have some of the same potential benefits as a federally designated NHA. Benefits could include improved visitor information (maps, wayfinding signs and kiosks, brochures, etc.) and wide-reaching dissemination of information about the area's historical, natural and recreational assets. The enhancement of tourism activities in the proposed heritage area would be a likely outcome and has economic potential; however, a State- or City-operated heritage area would have limited resources because the heritage area would not be eligible for the seed money that is usually granted with the federal designation of an NHA. Additionally, there are very limited State or City funds to support its planning or the implementation of a heritage area.

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<sup>5</sup> See <http://www2.illinois.gov/gov/millennium-reserve/Pages/default.aspx>.



Upon further exploration of the City-operated heritage area, the primary challenge for the City is that it must weigh local investments evenly across Chicago's 50 wards -- making it particularly challenging for the City to be able to invest the necessary time and resources to effectively manage and promote the heritage area. As it stands today, the City has concentrated efforts in tourism and cultural event programming. It is anticipated that DCASE will continue to coordinate major arts and cultural events in the study area. HPres and the Landmarks Commission will also continue to play a role in local preservation efforts; however, preserving local heritage assets still must come from community residents and business owners.

**Presently, local governments have a number of departments and agencies that could fulfill discrete goals of the heritage area, but have limited capacity and financial resources available to manage, implement, and coordinate the proposed diversity of preservation and heritage area activities.** This management alternative is very unlikely. To develop this feasibility study, the PAC has been in close contact with many of the likely candidates discussed in this alternative, none of which have expressed interest in operating the proposed heritage area. DHED and HPres, both of which are represented on the PAC, have stated that the City would not be able to fulfill the responsibilities and obligations that come with operating a heritage area. In addition, both the City and State are experiencing serious budget shortfalls which would limit the amount of resources available to sustain operation of the heritage area.

## **Alternative 3: What if Bronzeville receives NHA designation?**

If NHA status were granted, a local coordinating entity would be created to organize local efforts related to the Black Metropolis NHA. **With the creation of a local coordinating entity, the heritage area would benefit from broad partnerships and could focus exclusively on the stated goals of the heritage area – to foster economic development and cultural heritage tourism.**

### ***Community-based organizations***

The benefit of NHA designation is having a coordinating entity that will be able to lend capacity to ongoing efforts. As mentioned in the first alternative, there is a need to bring together the vast number of local players to better coordinate the activities and events that already occur in the heritage area. The coordinating entity would be set up with minimal staff but with a distinct committee structure representing the host of players from the community, City, and State. This management structure would help to ensure that this new entity takes into consideration the breadth of the work that is presently under way in the community. Once the coordinating entity is created, its focus should be to leverage financial resources and new partnerships to lend broad-based support to community organizations.

## ***Institutions***

It is anticipated that the coordinating entity would explore local, regional, and national partnerships. A key goal would be to tie major exhibitions at cultural and educational institutions back to the community. Through its committee structure, the coordinating entity could also tap committee members to lend expertise and partnerships to large-scale exhibitions. The coordinating entity should also build relationships with other designated African-American NHAs to support programming that makes the physical connection of Great Migration stories.

## ***Government***

Congressman Bobby Rush, State Senators Mattie Hunter and Kwame Raul, IDNR, Cook County, the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD), the Chicago Park District, and City of Chicago divisions and departments including DHED, Department of Transportation, and HPres have all met with the Commission and expressed interest in supporting (and in some cases participating on) a national heritage area coordinating entity body. DCASE and the Illinois Office of Tourism have recognized that a heritage area can improve the image of Bronzeville and develop new attractions. A designated coordinating entity would mean that government partners would have a single organization with which they can partner.

## ***Assessment***

In the last decade, the City of Chicago has invested over a billion dollars in infrastructure improvements within the Black Metropolis-Bronzeville study area. These improvements have been intended to stimulate economic development, improve quality of life for residents, upgrade the visitor experience, and draw visitors to the community. Much of this work recognizes that the study area has a historic past worthy of recognition, and is acknowledged through signage, public art, and programming. The NHA designation would complement and expand these efforts bringing even greater awareness and appreciation to the community.

Defining actual commitments, rather than general support for heritage area designation, will be the focus of the PAC and the Commission now that the feasibility study is complete. Key to the heritage area's success will be the connections the coordinating entity makes to existing attractions and amenities, and the strength of the partnerships with City, State, and local organizations. The PAC and the Commission have been laying the groundwork for this to eventually happen.

The strength of this alternative is that it will validate the work of so many in the community. The feasibility study and hope of receiving the designation has been a rallying cry for the community, bringing numerous organizations together. Based on discussions with the organizations at the table, the preferred coordinating entity for the Black Metropolis National Heritage Area is a not-for-profit organization that represents local government, alongside a wide range of community-based organizations, educational and cultural institutions, and community residents. The Commission has been operating for a number of years without NHA designation with the hope that one day this vision will become a reality. Their pre-designation

planning efforts serve as the foundation for this feasibility study, which will inform many aspects of the work plan for the proposed coordinating entity.

A recent study completed by the Alliance of National Heritage Areas states that the typical NHA leverages \$5.50 to every \$1 of federal investment.<sup>6</sup> Not only that, but NHAs create jobs, are models for public engagement, and many have proven track records of success. This formal recognition of the Bronzeville community's role in African-American history has the potential to leverage funding from many civic, cultural, and humanities-based organizations (see **Error! Reference source not found.** for potential funding opportunities). **Federal designation would provide an opportunity to increase economic development through heritage-based tourism programs and ultimately meet the specific goals of the heritage area.**

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<sup>6</sup> Alliance of National Heritage Areas, 2010 Annual Report.

# Chapter 6: Application of Interim National Heritage Area Criteria

## Relationship to National Park Service Thematic Framework

The Black Metropolis' interpretive themes and compelling stories are consistent with the NPS thematic framework for interpreting the role of historic sites in American history (<http://www.nps.gov/history/history/categrs/thematic.pdf>). The NPS thematic framework clusters American history into eight core themes bound together by shared sensitivity to the role of people, place, and time. In comparison with other national heritage areas, the Black Metropolis heritage area is suitable for interpretation of a range of themes that are not already interpreted by other national heritage areas. Its heritage resources fit all the eight categories:

### **Expressing Cultural Values**

Arts & Culture (Aesthetics), Education, Religion & Church Activism

### **Transforming the Environment**

Urban Design and Green Infrastructure, Industry & Labor

### **Developing the American Economy**

Business & Entrepreneurial pursuit; Industry & Labor, Healthcare, Education, Recreation & Sports

### **Expanding Science and Technology**

Industry & Labor, Education, Business & Entrepreneurial Pursuit

### **Changing Role of the United States in the World Community**

Military Life & Patriotism, Politics, Social Justice & Civil Rights

### **Peopling Places**

Great Migration, Industry & labor, Government & Politics, Social Justice & Civil Rights

### **Creating Social Institutions and Movements**

Social Justice & Civil Rights, Government & Politics

### **Shaping the Political Landscape**

Military Life & Government & Politics, Social Justice & Civil Rights



## ***Application of NPS National Heritage Area Criteria***

The following evaluation applies the NPS NHA criteria, described above, to assess the national significance of the proposed study area. Criteria 1 through 5 apply specifically to the composition and integrity of the resources contained within the study area. The remaining criteria apply to other aspects of feasibility such as community support, organizational capacity, and level of civic engagement.

***1. The area has an assemblage of natural, historic, or cultural resources that together represent distinctive aspects of American heritage worthy of recognition, conservation, interpretation, and continuing use, and are best managed as such an assemblage, through partnerships among public and private entities, and by combining diverse and sometimes noncontiguous resources and active communities.***

Bronzeville's natural, cultural, and recreational resources as well as the historic sites in the Black Metropolis make the area a distinctive landscape worthy of recognition, conservation, and interpretation. Its heritage resources are the primary focus of this heritage area concept and will be the vehicle for conveying the story of the Great Migration and the Black Metropolis to residents and tourists.

The project team has created an inventory of historical sites and figures, local organizations, and cultural and heritage resources located within the study area. The Great Migration and Black Metropolis narratives provide the unifying features around which the majority of these "assets" are organized. Overall, more than 200 assets were identified, and grouped according to relevant themes. The project team also performed mapping of study area assets by theme. It is the significance, both nationally and locally, of these narrative themes that argues for higher level organization and management of Bronzeville's assets.

Through massive upheaval and multiple rounds of urban revitalization, the South Side of Chicago retains numerous core cultural artifacts and physical features that date to the Great Migration Black Metropolis period. The proposed heritage area contains 76 buildings and structures considered National Historic Landmarks or listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Many of these are also included in an extensive list of Chicago landmarks within the study area. City historic districts such as the Cermak Road Bridge, Motor Row, and Prairie Avenue provide additional heritage components that relate to the industrial and commercial history of Bronzeville. Historic housing districts such as the "Gap" (Calumet-Giles-Prairie District), also designated by the City, serve to highlight both architectural elements and narrative themes relevant to the story of the Black Metropolis – principally racially-segregated housing patterns. Bronzeville's historic boulevard system links the residential and commercial districts to the historic lakefront area, and to the larger City network. Several large, urban parks exist within or adjacent to the study area, and a number of community parks provide additional open space.



The natural, cultural, and historic sites within the Black Metropolis can be effectively assembled into a conservation and interpretation framework that will both tell the stories of the Great Migration and the Black Metropolis, and contribute to the local economy through heritage tourism and economic development. Organizations like the Bronzeville Alliance, Bronzeville Tourism and Visitor Information Center, and the Bronzeville Community Development Partnership are currently engaged in efforts to develop interpretative programs and formalize existing, ad hoc collaborations within the study area. While their efforts have been far-reaching, at this time their emphasis is on marketing and promotion rather than resource protection and interpretive programming. Moreover, the effectiveness of some community efforts relating to heritage preservation and tourism have been limited by a lack of institutional cohesion within Bronzeville, possibly stemming from the social and economic stresses of the post-war years. A larger coordinating framework has the potential to bring some these disparate elements together, so they can more effectively access funding and technical assistance for conservation and interpretive purposes.

## ***2. The area reflects traditions, customs, beliefs, and folk life that are a valuable part of the nation's story.***

The Great Migration brought thousands of African-Americans from the south to Chicago. The Great Migration's enormous scale fueled explosive growth and the creation of a city-within-a-city, called the Black Metropolis. Today, the proposed heritage area stands as a memorial to the Great Migration and the Black Metropolis, as well as providing a vibrant community for south side residents. Its national significance, however, is the important role that the study area played in the evolution of America's African-American community. As the destination of southern migrants, Chicago's south side became the capital of Black life in America, and a place where traditional restrictions on Black life were shattered. In this way, the historic places and heritage resources of Bronzeville provide a rare look at what life *was* like for Blacks, and then another view into what it *would become*. The fact that Chicago and Chicagoans would continue to play prominent roles in the civil rights movement, so many years after the Great Migration and Black Metropolis period, further speaks to the importance of the study area in an evolving, nationally-significant story

Although the Great Migration was the definitive event in Chicago's rise to prominence in Black culture, African-Americans have played a prominent role in the City's development since the 18<sup>th</sup> Century. In fact, Chicago's first settler was a Haitian man of African and French descent, Jean Baptiste Point DuSable who settled in the area as early as 1779. In the antebellum period, before slavery was outlawed, Chicago was an important center of abolitionist activity and a stop on the Underground Railroad, the system of routes and way-stations that helped escaped slaves reach freedom in Canada. Bronzeville's churches, including Quinn Chapel AME and the First Presbyterian Church of Chicago, served as stations, with congregants opening their homes and businesses to those moving north. Many of the Chicagoans involved were themselves free Blacks or fugitive slaves, part of a small but growing local Black community. John Jones, a tailor, and his wife, Mary Jane Richardson Jones, headed anti-slavery efforts within the City in

the mid-1800s, helping hundreds of escaped slaves on their way to Canada from their house at 119 Dearborn Street. Mary was born a free Black in Tennessee, while John was born in North Carolina to a free, mixed-race mother and a father of German descent. Despite the inherent difficulty of documenting Underground Railroad sites (originally meant to evade detection), many have been identified in the proposed study area. Today, several local tour operators focus on Underground Railroad stories in Bronzeville.

While conditions in Chicago were certainly preferable to those in the South, Blacks experienced a great deal of hostility in their daily lives. As in other parts of the country, their civil rights were severely limited by local laws, referred to in Chicago as the Black Laws, which enforced segregation and prohibited blacks from voting, testifying in courts against whites, or even gathering in groups larger than three. African-Americans living in the state were required to carry a Certificate of Freedom; otherwise, they were presumed to be slaves. An 1847 revision of these statutes even forbade free blacks from settling in Illinois.

In most ways, Chicago's pre-Migration black community experienced prejudice and discrimination that was typical of America at that time, although in no way as severe as that experienced by Southern Blacks. To put it simply, their situation was what Black life in America *was*. Into this traditional arrangement stormed The Great Migration, transforming Chicago and other northern, industrial cities. More importantly, the Migrations and the Black Metropolis that emerged would change the way many African-Americans lived. The Great Migration marked a turn from an agrarian, southern existence to a more urban, industrial life for Blacks. The Black Metropolis also shattered many of the limits that society had placed on Black participation, achievement, and expression. The result, both on the south side of Chicago and nationally, was an African-American community that would no longer be relegated to second-class status, or to the limited levels of societal participation that had been permitted pre-Migration.

Chicago's south side tells the story of the Great Migration and the evolution of Black life in America better than anywhere else, for this place was the place where the traditional "*was*" turned into the forward-looking "*would become*." It is within Bronzeville's dense housing blocks and along its boulevards that a nationally significant narrative unfolded. It was from printing presses on the mid-south side that Robert S. Abbot's aspirational writings on Chicago were put to paper, eventually spurring thousands to board rail cars headed north. The higher wages, unleashed energies and massive population increases resulting from the Great Migration, combined with segregated housing policy, fueled explosive, localized growth. Upon this foundation, in the heart of Bronzeville at 35<sup>th</sup> and State Streets, emerged the Black Wall Street, the cluster of banks and insurance companies that served as the financial foundation for the Black Metropolis. Black Metropolis corporations with names such as Binga, Gillespie, and Overton achieved on entirely new scales, and they did so by catering to Black consumers. While most of State Street's corporate headquarters have fallen, the archetype of the African-American corporate leader, and the value of the Black consumer remain powerful forces today.

If the Black Wall Street provided the financial underpinning of the Black Metropolis, the churches and jazz clubs along State Street served as its cultural heart. South State Street, from 31<sup>st</sup> to 39<sup>th</sup> Street was known as the “Stroll,” and famous clubs along this stretch introduced southern jazz and Mississippi blues music to the world. Jazz greats such as King Oliver, Louis Armstrong, and Jelly Roll Morton, all originally from New Orleans, attracted large crowds. A local legend had it that a trumpet held up at the corner would magically play itself – testament to the intensity and vitality of the local jazz scene. Other venues in Bronzeville would introduce new musical forms such as gospel, rhythm and blues, and soul. Innovation and creativity also extended to literature and visual arts on the south side. The 1930s witnessed an artistic flowering among Black authors and poets, referred to as the Black Chicago Renaissance. As was the case with jazz and other artistic forms, the tumultuous nature of the times and ongoing racial strife caused these figures to search for meaning and identity in new ways. Literary figures such as Gwendolyn Brooks, Lorraine Hansberry, and Richard Wright would quickly win national audiences with their realistic portrayals of urban life. Their success reinforces the centrality of Chicago in the national narrative of African-American life.

Bronzeville’s narrative of change and transformation is also evident in the area’s political and social justice movements. From its political bases in the area’s Second Ward and the First Congressional District, which were under the leadership of Edward “the Iron master” Wright, Chicago’s Black Metropolis proved itself a political center for all African-Americans, producing the first Black to sit in Congress in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Representative Oscar DePriest, as well as the first African-American Democratic congressman, the Honorable Arthur W. Mitchell. Mirroring a national shift, Chicago’s Black political class realigned itself, from Lincoln’s Republican party to the party of FDR and then to Daley’s Democratic machine. Eventually, congressional power broker William “Boss” Dawson would pave the way for national firsts, such as the election of Carol Moseley Braun as the first female, Black Senator, and ultimately the election of the country’s first African-American President, Barack Obama.

Ultimately, the narrative of change that Bronzeville represents is an ongoing one. Generations of Chicagoans after the Black Metropolis would build on the social-justice and civil-rights foundations that were created then. Early reformers such as Ida B. Wells would not live to see the civil rights movements of the 1950s and 60s, but many of the institutions they formed would prove useful in later years. Moreover, the path from the Great Migration to civil rights was not an easy one, as Bronzeville can attest. In the years after the multiple waves of southern migration, south side neighborhoods would endure alternating cycles of urban deterioration and renewal. Public housing would be built, destroyed, and rebuilt. Many residents would leave the area for the south suburbs. This too is an important part of the African-American experience in Chicago, and in the national evolution of African-American life. In Chicago, projects such as the future National Public Housing Museum provide a model for conservation and interpretation of these complex legacies. A Gospel Museum is nearing completion at 43<sup>rd</sup> Street and King Drive, which will highlight the city’s rich religious history in music.

### ***3. The area provides outstanding opportunities to conserve natural, historic, cultural, and/or scenic features.***

#### **Natural areas**

Since the study is located in an urban environment, there are no large tracts of land available for establishment of new parks. Environmental restoration efforts could focus on maintaining healthy habitat in existing open space. Additional restoration could be done at Oak Woods Cemetery to improve pond habitat. Small plots of vacant land can be developed into community garden plots or community native gardens. IDNR has been working in the Millennium Reserve area to set up community native garden plots through the Neighborhood Roots program.

Based on the resources present in the study area and restoration efforts under way, additional programming could include community work day to assist with installation of trees in Burnham Wildlife Corridor; community involvement in removal of invasive species; programming related to migratory bird species in Burnham Park; and citizen science projects to further monitor resources in the study area.

#### **Historic and cultural conservation**

As expressed in **Error! Reference source not found.**, there are four themes that are a good starting point for historic and cultural conservation. In terms of music, the Chicago Blues Museum is presently a travelling collection of artifacts that illustrate and preserve the legacy of the blues in Chicago. The Chicago Jazz Institute has also proposed a National Jazz Museum that would recognize the community's contributions to jazz. The completion of these two projects should be a priority for the coordinating entity.

In regards to civil rights and social activism, the coordinating entity should also focus on highlighting the many contributions and firsts that the Great Migration and Black Metropolis helped to foster. This includes the election of Chicago's first African-American mayor, Harold Washington, the housing and civil rights history that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. brought to Chicago in the 1960s, and the legacy that President Barack Obama and his political beginnings in Chicago.

The opportunities for conservation in both the business and entrepreneurial pursuits and industry and labor themes include a variety of educational tours and support for present day organizations that have begun to promote these areas. The BVIC could be supported by resources or partnerships to offer additional heritage tours that could cover each theme area. Partnerships with the Pullman community, the Museum of Science and Industry, and possibly the National Public Housing Museum are all ways in which these important stories could find lasting homes.



#### ***4. The area provides outstanding recreational and educational opportunities.***

**Error! Reference source not found.** outlines the significance of the study area in four major theme areas, as well as detailing opportunities for conservation, recreation, and education for each of the four themes. There are countless opportunities for recreation and education – many of these opportunities have been discussed, whether the opportunity is an educational tour, gallery or museum, preservation, or implementation of local heritage signage and wayfinding. The Bronzeville community has, on its own, albeit with limited capacity, worked to preserve historic assets of the community and educate Chicagoans and tourists about the importance of Bronzeville to the story of the Great Migration.

Every plan or study completed for the study area has highlighted the numerous opportunities and assets that the community possesses. From heritage tourism, to recreation and educational opportunities, the options are limitless. The opportunities highlighted in **Error! Reference source not found.** highlights a variety of projects that are tangible and implementable. However, there are hundreds of local historic places, people, and other assets that still exist today, and can be found in **Error! Reference source not found.**. Without the continued preservation of these assets, the community's story would not be as compelling.

The opportunity for the coordinating entity lies in their ability to look at existing plans and past studies to be able to bring together the focus and resources it will take to ultimately implement the numerous recommendations of local planning effort. The community has been behind these efforts for decades but is in need of a champion to convene local stakeholders and lead the process. NHA designation may also present additional opportunities through the collaboration and technical assistance provided by NPS.

#### ***5. Resources that are important to the identified theme or themes of the area retain a degree of integrity capable of supporting interpretation.***

The Black Metropolis is characterized by many resources of national significance, beginning with a number of National Historic Landmarks and resources on the National Registry. Other cultural sites within the study area are included on Chicago's landmark list, or form parts of locally-designated historic districts. These heritage assets are of outstanding importance and are obviously capable of supporting relevant interpretation, since they have been doing so for many years. Other sites have not been fully evaluated for official heritage designations, but possess sufficient history to offer opportunities for interpretation of the study area's narrative themes. For instance, the historic Bronzeville neighborhood that defined the restrictive covenants offers numerous opportunities to interpret aspects of major themes identified for the heritage area.

**Error! Reference source not found.**, summarizes historical designations and integrity ratings for resources found within the proposed national heritage area. Overall, the City of Chicago identifies 1,617 individual buildings or sites within the study area as "historic." The vast majority of these have been found to retain sufficient integrity to support interpretative efforts.



According to the City's list, only 313 of the 1,617 historic sites lack significance or are too altered to support interpretive efforts. There are currently 98 sites among the overall number that are not recognized by any formal historic designation, or associated with any existing historic district. These historic structures represent heritage opportunities for the community. Additionally, 77 sites are on the historic list even though they were built after 1940. These historic, albeit recently constructed, places represent further opportunities for preservation and interpretation.

<b>Table 1. Black Metropolis Historic Resources</b>	
<b>National Historic Designation</b>	<b>Total Sites and Districts located within Bronzeville</b>
National Historic Landmark (NHL): Officially recognized with a historic distinction	16
National Registry (NR): Officially recognized with a historic distinction	62
<b>City Historic Designation</b>	
Chicago Landmark (CL): Officially recognized with a local historic distinction	42
Chicago Historic resources Survey (CHRS) Red (RD): Properties possess some architectural feature or historical association in the broader context of Chicago, the state of Illinois or the U.S.	9
CHRS Orange (OR): Properties possess some architectural or historical association in the boarder context of the surrounding community	475
Calumet Giles Prairie District*	170
North Kenwood Multiple Resource District*	217
Douglas District*	43
Greenwood Row House District*	20
Hyde Park-Kenwood District*	214
IIT District*	20
Motor Row District*	54
Black Metropolis-Bronzeville District*	10
Oakland District*	109
Prairie Avenue District*	26
Washington Park Court District*	33
Hyde Park Apartment Hotel Thematic District*	7
Not officially recognized	98
CHRS Green (GR), Yellow-Green (YG), Yellow (YL): these properties are considered too altered or lacking significance	313
CHRS Blue (BL): properties constructed after 1940	77

\* Districts include a collection of historic properties identified collectively and designated as a district on the National Register designation.

**6. Residents, business interests, non-profit organizations, and governments within the proposed area are involved in the planning, have developed a conceptual financial plan that outlines the roles for all participants including the federal government, and have demonstrated support for designation of the area.**

The size of the proposed Black Metropolis NHA, and the diversity, quality, and quantity of its assets demands meaningful collaboration. The Commission continues to collaborate with public, non-profit and private organizations to access additional talent and funding sources that can broaden its reach. Collaborating with other stakeholders will help the coordinating entity attract financial support from public agencies, private foundations and individuals, and businesses. As an example, State initiatives like the Millennium Reserve have been important local partners in public relations efforts, helped spread the word regarding heritage preservation in Bronzeville to new audiences.

Through various agencies, the State of Illinois has been instrumental in promoting the heritage area concept. The State's marketing initiatives use websites, brochures, and informational maps placed at welcome centers and rest areas along the interstates. IDNR manages various programs within the region including a number of natural resources along Lake Michigan. IDNR staff has been a strong supporter of the heritage area and even volunteered to lead the writing of the sections related to natural resources for the feasibility study. The future role of IDNR will include researching and documenting cultural and natural resources, assisting the CPD with lakefront restoration, providing expertise in educational materials, and assisting with tours in the Heritage Area.

Another potentially key player at the state level is the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT). Future projects with IDOT could include creation of roadway signage for the Black Metropolis National Heritage Area, and also coordinating transportation improvements in and around the heritage area to complement cultural tourism.

At the county level, Cook County has been a dedicated ally of the proposed Black Metropolis NHA. Numerous Cook County Board presidents have supported the NHA project, since the idea of an NHA first surfaced over 20 years ago. Current President Toni Preckwinkle served previously as the Alderman of the 4th ward, located in the heart of Bronzeville, and has consistently supported designation. Cook County has provided financial support to Commission and sponsored a resolution in 2004 in support of NHA project. Cook County's involvement remains critical as it is a potential provider of local funding, the local match that is needed when applying for federal funding. The County, as the operator of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, also plays a significant role in educating the public and encouraging continued conservation of heritage assets. It has also provided staffing, mapping, and technical expertise in planning and economic development.

The City of Chicago also supports the heritage area designation, and has directly participated by providing mapping, data, and landmark reports. The City has also developed a number of

plans (see **Error! Reference source not found.**) and has implemented land use policies that promote historic preservation, cultural heritage, and economic development in greater Bronzeville. The City's continued partnership in promoting heritage themes through events programming and planning will be of great value to the coordinating entity.

Chicago Public Schools (CPS) is also critical to the proposed heritage area. In the past, CPS has collaborated with heritage area organizations to fund and produce educational programs on Black history. With several schools within the proposed study area, and a majority African-American student population, CPS has much to gain from greater recognition of Bronzeville's national significance. Designation will create new interpretive opportunities for CPS students across the City. It is fitting, then, that CPS is represented on the Educational Advisory Committee for the Heritage Area.

The federal government is represented in the project through the Commission's coordination with NPS's midwest regional office. The regional office has provided continuous guidance and expertise to the Commission during the feasibility study process. The PAC envisions an active, ongoing role for NPS. An example of a successful, past NPS contribution to Bronzeville heritage conservation and interpretation was the creation of an educational curriculum on the Black Metropolis as part of the Teaching with Historic Places program.

A number of academic institutions including IIT, Roosevelt University, University of Chicago, and Northeastern Illinois University have supported the work of the Commission and the feasibility study process, by providing subject expertise and research on heritage themes. In particular, IIT and Roosevelt University are founding members of the Commission, and both are represented on the PAC. To date, university staff has been instrumental, assisting with historical research and reviewing draft documents. IIT has hosted several PAC meetings and it is envisioned that they will continue to provide office space for the future coordinating entity.

Local businesses have joined this effort because increased tourism will boost demand for shopping, dining, overnight stays, and other economic activities. Many local businesses are already working to preserve heritage resources as a way of encouraging future tourism that is anticipated to lead to increased economic development. Partnership efforts will continue to focus on programs that will strengthen tourism while protecting heritage assets. Operators of heritage area venues that have not been active in the NHA project will be encouraged to be part of this effort.

The coordinating entity will seek funding from philanthropic organizations and individual donors with similar interests and philosophies. Protecting open space, historic preservation, and creating entertaining, educational offerings are interests shared by philanthropic organizations like the MacArthur Foundation, Prince Charitable Trust, The Chicago Community Trust, The Conservation Fund, the Trust for Public Land, and many other local and national foundations. The coordinating entity will continue to reach out to organizations such as these for financial support (see **Error! Reference source not found.**<sup>3</sup>).

Community organizations like the Partnership, BVIC, Bronzeville Chamber of Commerce, the Bronzeville Alliance, and Camp Douglas have been key drivers of the Heritage Area designation initiative. Each organization is committed to historic preservation and documentation of the area's heritage. These community organizations will continue to provide research to document Bronzeville's history for educational displays and marketing materials, and will remain vigilant in protecting vital assets in the study area.

**7. The proposed coordinating entity and units of government supporting the designation are willing to commit to working in partnership to develop the heritage area.**

The preferred coordinating entity for the Black Metropolis NHA would have representation from local governments, as well input from a wide range of organizational and citizen interests. The study team has considered using a federal commission, a state- or city-operated coordinating entity, or a private, nonprofit organization (see Management Alternatives for discussion of each) as the coordinating entity. The study team has found the greatest local support for a federal commission (federally-designated coordinating entity) because local stakeholders believe it could most effectively involve federal, state, and local government, as well as nonprofit economic-development, cultural, historical, environmental, and civic organizations. Stakeholders believe that a commission structure would provide a necessary departure from fragmented organizational dynamics at work within the community.

Congressman Bobby Rush, State Senators Mattie Hunter and Kwame Raoul, IDNR, Cook County, the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD), Chicago Park District, and City of Chicago divisions and departments including DHED, CDOT, and HPres have met with the Commission and feasibility study team and expressed interest in supporting (and, in some cases, serving on) a National Heritage Area management entity. DCASE, which is dedicated to enriching Chicago's artistic vitality and cultural vibrancy, and the Illinois Office of Tourism have been active in developing cultural tourism in Chicago. They recognize that a Heritage Area can improve the image of Bronzeville, develop new attractions, and serve as a vehicle for better coordination of existing heritage initiatives. A recent example of the City's interest in the Black Metropolis and Great Migration narrative was the selection of Isabel Wilkerson's *The Warmth of Other Sons: The Epic Story of America's Great Migration* as the featured book in the year-long, *One Book, One Chicago* program. The program, officially administered by the Chicago Public Library, will use films, performances, lectures, storytelling and art to foster discussion of the migration theme. Local public broadcast television station, WTTW<sup>1</sup>, is currently showing a 2011 prize-winning production entitle "Du Sable to Obama: Chicago's Black Metropolis" that highlights the Bronzeville story from 18<sup>th</sup> century to the present.

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<sup>1</sup> WTTW, Du Sable to Obama: Chicago's Black Metropolis, <http://www.wttw.com/main.taf?p=76,3>.

A NHA designation would complement and expand upon the City's ongoing efforts to revitalize Bronzeville. Key to the heritage area's success will be the enhancement of opportunities to create links among tourist attractions and amenities as well as to expand partnerships between the proposed coordinating entity and the City and state departments and agencies. Defining actual commitments, rather than general support for designation, has been hampered because the public and government agencies involved in the process have not yet been able to focus on the management alternatives contained in this feasibility study. As the public engagement process continues, stakeholders will express specific support for their preferred alternatives, and specific commitments and partnerships that may be available, involving local governments and area organizations working with the coordinating entity, will be discussed further.

#### ***8. The coordinating entity proposed to plan and implement the project is described.***

The study team has been working with local officials and citizens to determine the most appropriate coordinating entity for the proposed heritage area. The three, management-entity forms under consideration are a federal commission, a state-/city-operated commission, and a local, private nonprofit organization. Descriptions of these coordinating entities and their possible advantages and disadvantages are included in **Error! Reference source not found..**

#### ***9. The proposal is consistent with continued economic activity in the area.***

In the 1920s, Chicago's Bronzeville neighborhood established itself as a national center of Black entrepreneurship. State Street housed a cluster of banks and financial firms, earning the area the label of the "Black Wall Street." Bronzeville's unique concentration of buying power and newfound financial strength promoted growth among small businesses and service providers in the area, with several large business empires eventually forming. Overall, the Metropolis period, and the post-war years corresponding with the second wave of migration to Chicago, witnessed great vitality in the local economy. However, intervening decades have seen a loss of industrial employment and a large decline in population in the study area. These are macro trends that have been accompanied by a range of localized effects, affecting different areas of the study area in different ways. The result is an area that contains several vibrant retail and commercial districts, but also large amounts of vacant land and sub-optimal business uses.

Over the last several decades, local groups and the City, most recently through its Neighborhoods Now initiative, have established an economic development agenda to revitalize Bronzeville's commercial districts. This effort includes many local planning efforts, ranging from neighborhood cultural and quality of life plans, to streetscaping and redevelopment proposals. The City and the Chicago Housing Authority have removed nearly all of the high-rise, public housing complexes that were built during the post-war period. These complexes have been replaced with mixed-income, mixed-use housing and commercial developments that promote more vibrant street life on major Bronzeville thoroughfares such as State Street. Other





efforts have resulted in the installation of community gardens and other green infrastructure meant to make the Bronzeville area more appealing to residents and visitors.

Tourism plays a central role in redevelopment and economic growth in Bronzeville, due to the area's proximity to downtown Chicago and to the well-known institutions and destinations which are found locally. Several planning efforts have targeted the heritage tourist and visitor. To date, the jazz and blues narrative themes have motivated most of these. 47<sup>th</sup> Street, a historic retail corridor in Bronzeville, has been defined as a jazz and blues district, and enhanced with decorative streetscaping and sculpture to highlight the area's musical legacy. The Harold Washington Cultural Center is also on 47<sup>th</sup> Street, providing another musical destination in the area. However, the area continues to search for entertainment and dining venues that will serve as anchors for continued development.

McCormick Place, a major convention center located in the northern portion of the study area, is the area's largest tourist draw, and a central piece in Chicago's overall tourist economy. Nearby is the Motor Row Historic District, which has recently been slated for large-scale development as an entertainment district. Motor Row is a historic neighborhood, with several sites that are linked to the Great Migration and Black Metropolis narrative. Its vicinity to McCormick Place makes the area an ideal place to serve as a gateway to the sites of the heritage area, as well as a tourist draw in its own right. Convention attendees looking for entertainment or dining will find a range of options in Motor Row. They will also be exposed to cultural and historic sites associated with the Great Migration and the Metropolis. McCormick Place has been a supporter of heritage efforts within the local community, but the development of the Motor Row district calls for a more expansive relationship with institutions and community partners within the core Bronzeville area in order for both groups to capitalize on increased tourism and convention business.

**NHA designation is consistent with the aims of these efforts, especially considering the important role that tourism, and specifically cultural tourism, plays in development plans at the City and community level.** Bronzeville's story is significant, and combined with the neighborhood's proximity to downtown Chicago and to multiple transit modes, provides a solid foundation for development. However, for cultural tourism to contribute to overall development, the narrative of the Great Migration and the Black Metropolis must be told in ways that are approachable and appealing. This involves better connections between cultural institutions, and their programming and events, and the physical sites and historic places that exist in Bronzeville today. The heritage area may also help the community to find funding to maintain physical assets, increase available programming, and strengthen marketing links that draw visitors to the Black Metropolis. These strategies, many of which have been advanced in previous plans, will benefit from greater exposure and opportunity presented by a Heritage Area designation.

A National Heritage Area will provide the proper mechanism for organizing Bronzeville's significant story, and support the efforts of existing entities such as the Bronzeville Visitor

Information Center, Bronzeville Alliance, Bronzeville Community Development Partnership, and BMNHAC. These groups, and the City, realize that Bronzeville's heritage is its true asset, and that cultural tourism and local economic development are interdependent. Furthermore, the application for Heritage designation displays a commitment on the part of the City and local community to seeking development that conforms to unique history and character of Bronzeville.

#### ***10. A conceptual boundary map has been reviewed by the public.***

A study area map with conceptual boundaries for the proposed Black Metropolis Heritage Area alternatives may be found in **Error! Reference source not found..** The map was developed by the Commission, the City of Chicago, BVIC, and a number of neighborhood organizations. Input was also gathered from elected officials and community residents. Conceptual boundaries were discussed at a community wide public meeting and at numerous smaller meetings. Meeting participants were generally supportive of the proposed boundary. The public will have more opportunity to provide input regarding the proposed heritage area boundary at future public meetings.

#### ***Conclusion***

CMAAP began assisting with the feasibility study in 2012, at the request of the Commission. Based upon the analysis of natural and cultural resources in the study area, evidence of an effective thematic framework, the potential for effective public and private partnerships, opportunities for the protection of natural and cultural resources as well as recreation, education and public support for a national heritage area designation, the study team concludes that the study area meets a number of the NPS interim criteria for designation as a National Heritage Area.

Bronzeville's historic sites and cultural institutions memorialize the significance of the Great Migration and the Black Metropolis period, as well as the continued evolution of African-American life. With an extensive array of heritage sites, including landmarks listed on the National Historic Register and City landmark list, Bronzeville's physical landscape provides a venue for interpretation of nationally important narratives. The Great Migration and Black Metropolis narratives provide a straightforward means of organizing and curating Bronzeville's sites, as well as giving local cultural institutions an accessible avenue for continued programming and education. Additional opportunities for heritage conservation and storytelling in Bronzeville are extensive, including both stories and assets that pre-date the main narrative and modern legacies of the Metropolis era.

There currently exists widespread support for a NHA designation, and positive expectations that the designation could foster partnerships that enhance the area's quality of life. The extensive activities of the local non-profit organizations supporting the national heritage area designation indicate the feasibility of establishing a NHA, as does the participation of the City of Chicago, through multiple departments. As an area of cultural significance, Bronzeville features prominently in the City's cultural agenda, with a host of programming planned that

ties in to heritage preservation and promotion efforts of all types. These events, along with the constant stream of cultural offerings from institutions and organizations within Bronzeville make the study area a place where recreation and education are effectively linked. Similarly, cultural tourism and local economic development support each other in Bronzeville. Both can be enhanced by the designation, and existing development and planning efforts will be bolstered by the designation.

**Therefore, the study concludes that the Black Metropolis exhibits all of the criteria for establishing a national heritage area.** It contains nationally important resources and represents important national themes as described by the 1996 NPS Thematic Framework. It is a singular geographical and cultural area that has made significant national contributions through its literary, artistic, musical, recreation, political, civic, architectural and military achievements and experience. This combination of themes and related resources makes the Black Metropolis suitable for national heritage area designation.



# Chapter 7: Vision Statement

Today, the Commission connects some, but not all, of the organizations that seek to understand and interpret the history of the Black Metropolis, those seeking to improve quality of life in the community, and those looking to promote the heritage area to visitors and prospective investors. The ultimate hope is that a coordinating entity will ensure that future developments in area are informed by the community's rich history and cultural legacy. A coordinating entity will also assist in preserving and enhancing the historical sites, neighborhoods, and cultural artifacts of Chicago's historic Black Belt, by teaching the area's history and reinforce the accomplishments of Chicago's African-American residents to all Americans. Thus the proposed NHA will serve as a living "show and tell" vehicle for the area's unique history and culture.

The coordinating entity's mission must be to:

*"work with all levels of government, the private sector, and residents of the Black Metropolis to conserve the area's heritage while continuing to pursue compatible economic development opportunities; while assisting local organizations, businesses, institutions, and citizens in identifying, preserving, interpreting, and developing the historical, cultural, scenic, and natural resources of the Black Metropolis for the educational and inspirational benefit of current and future generations"*

A part of the mission, the proposed local coordinating entity will be able to identify, interpret, preserve, develop, and commemorate the historical, cultural, economic, and political achievements of Chicago's African-American settlers, and the unique, economically independent community that they formed, their place in the Great Migration and national movements for racial equality; to present the Great Migration story and the struggles borne by African-Americans against discrimination; and to preserve the historic buildings, neighborhoods, and cultural artifacts of the Black Metropolis.

In accordance to the above mission statement, the community's vision is to create:

*"A future where community inspired actions and a shared vision will strengthen the heritage area's natural, historic and cultural resources as well as the community fabric; instilling pride in its resources and reinforcing its identity."*

The future Black Metropolis must be a place where the community understands the value of preservation and is fully committed to continued preservation and the interpretation of cultural heritage future generations. To fulfill this charge, the coordinating entity will collaborate with public, private and not-for-profit partners to improve greater Bronzeville's quality of life and economic vitality. NHA designation will help to establish partnerships and the infrastructure necessary to market Bronzeville to visitors, stimulate economic viability, and contribute to the quality and character of life for residents.

# Chapter 8: Impact Assessment

This study does not seek to assess the impact of construction or other physical action as it does not commit the local coordinating entity to site-specific strategies or actions intended to result in physical changes.





# Appendix 1: Examples of Nationally Distinctive Landscapes in the Black Metropolis

According to NPS, nationally distinctive landscapes are places that contain important regional and national stories that, together with their associated natural and/or cultural resources, enable the American people to understand, preserve and celebrate key components of the multi-faceted character of the nation's heritage. The landscapes are often places that represent and contain identifiable assemblages of resources with integrity associated with one or more of the following:

1. Important historical periods of the nation and its people;
2. Major events, persons and groups that contributed substantively to the nation's history, customs, beliefs, and folklore;
3. Distinctive cultures and cultural mores;
4. Major industries and technological, business and manufacturing innovations/practices, labor movements and labor advancements that contributed substantively to the economic growth of the nation and the well-being of its people;
5. Transportation innovations and routes that played central roles in important military actions, settlement, migration, and commerce;
6. Social movements that substantively influenced past and present day society;
7. American art, crafts, literature and music;
8. Distinctive architecture and architectural periods and movements;
9. Major scientific discoveries and advancements; and
10. Other comparable representations that together with their associated resources substantively contributed to the nation's heritage.

As described in the feasibility study the Great Migration's impact on greater Bronzeville was broad, touching on numerous themes described by NPS. Chapter 3 focused on four of the proposed heritage area's strongest themes, however, it is important to present a complete picture of the study area's history. Following, are maps and tables that depict the study area's existing historic assets by theme.

Figure 1. Existing Black Metropolis Heritage Assets by Theme

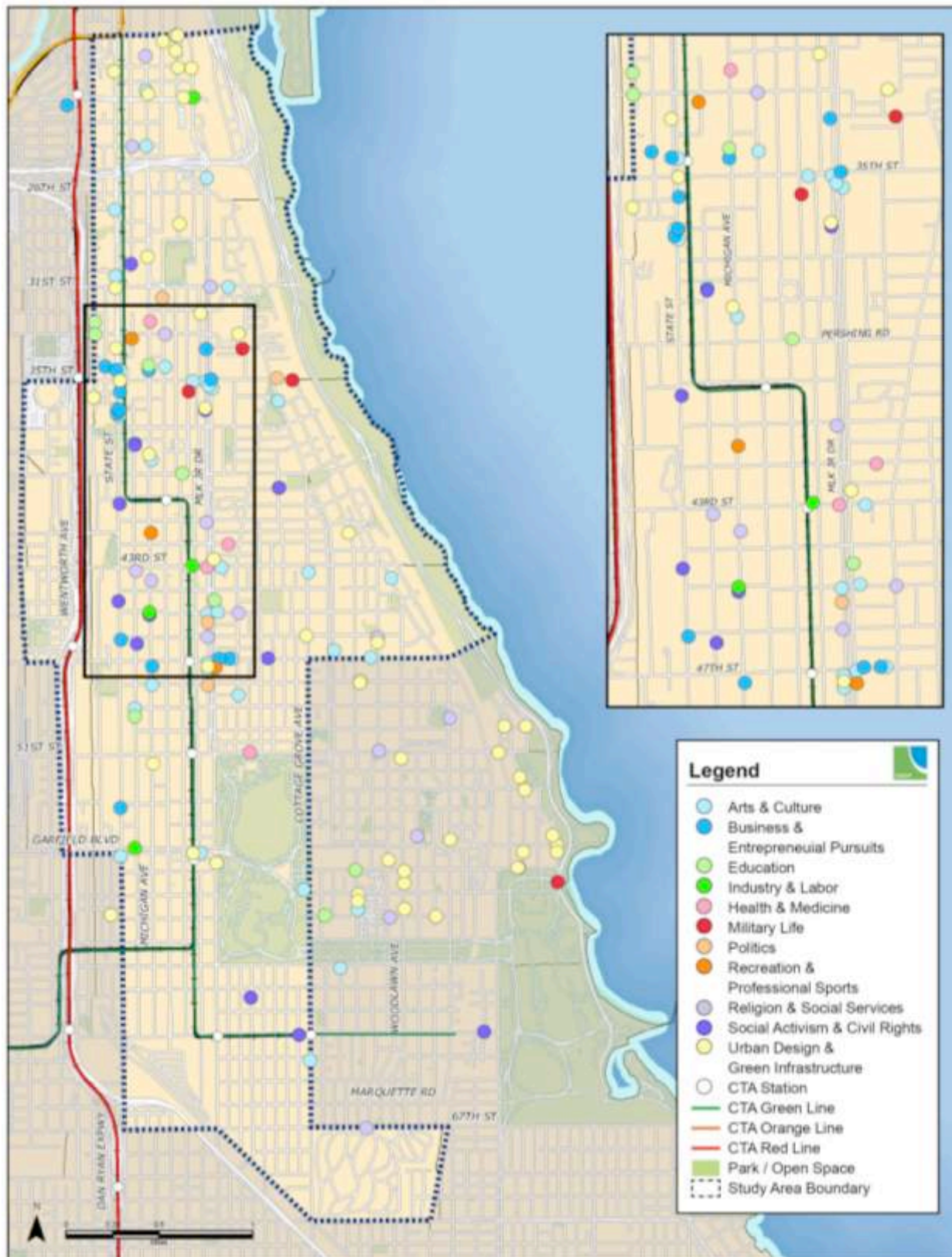


Figure 2. Arts and Culture Heritage Assets

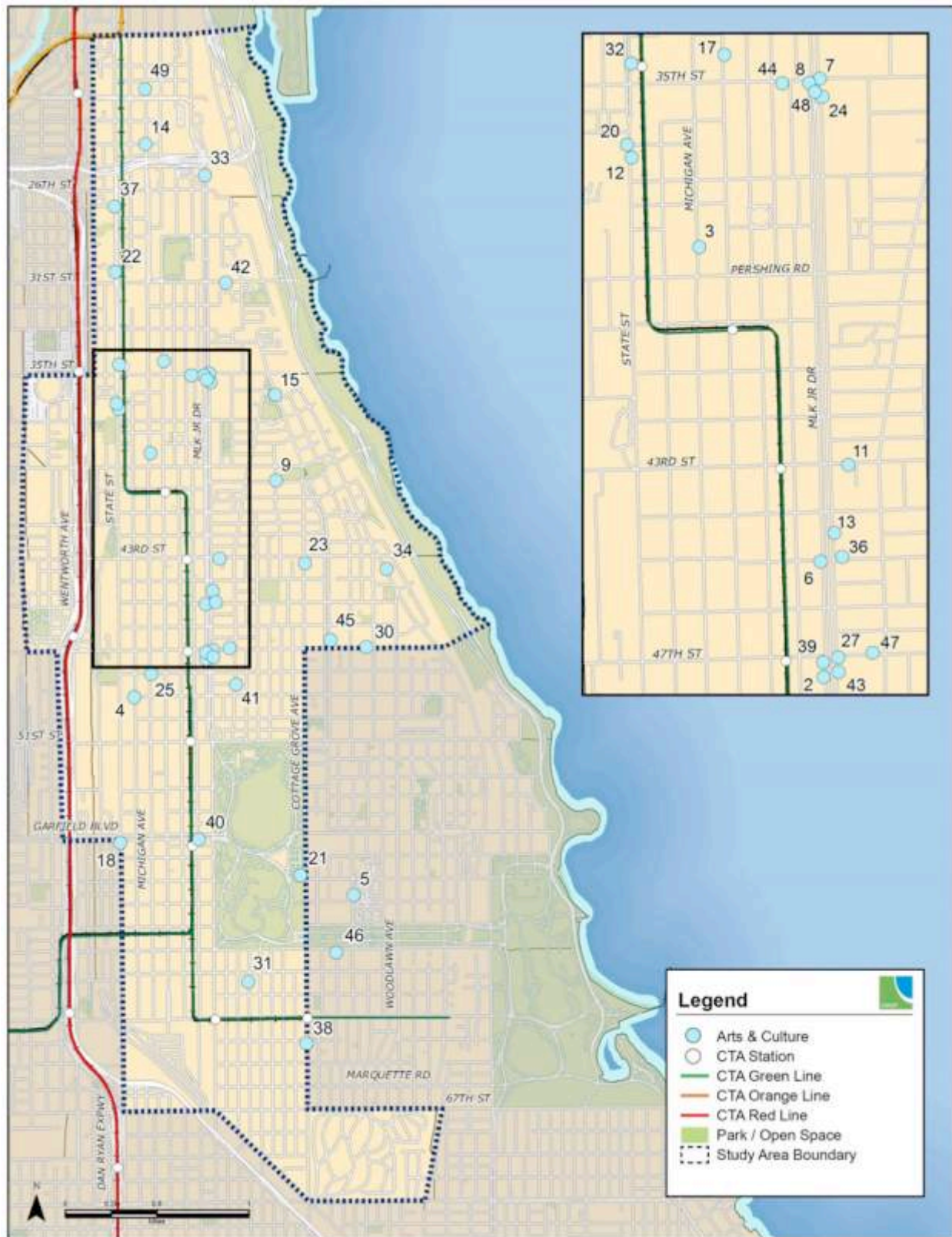




Table 1. Arts and Culture Heritage Assets				
MAP ID#	Asset	Category	Description	Address
1	A. Philip Randolph Pullman Porter Museum	Resource	The A. Philip Randolph Pullman Porter Museum was founded in 1995 by Dr. Lyn Hughes. The facility is located in the Historic Pullman District in Chicago. The facility is named after men who made history: Asa Philip Randolph and the Pullman Porters, the men who made up the membership of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters (BSCP) union. Randolph was the chief organizer and co-founder of the BSCP, the first African-American labor union in the country to win a collective bargaining agreement. Under Randolph's leadership, the Pullman Porters fought a valiant battle for employment equality with the corporate giant, the Pullman Rail Car Company.	10406 S. Maryland Avenue 60628
2	Abbott, Robert S. House	Historical Landmark	Former home of the founder of the <i>Chicago Defender</i> newspaper. Abbot lived in the house from 1926 until his death in 1940. The building earned National Historic Landmark status in 1976.	4742 S Dr Martin L King Jr Dr 60615
3	AfriCOBRA	Resource	AfriCOBRA is a visual art collective, founded in 1968.	3831 S. Michigan Avenue 60653
3	South Side Community Arts Center	Historical Landmark	Built for grain merchant George Seaverns, Jr., this Georgian Revival-style residence (see Colonial Revival) was converted in 1940 for use by the South Side Community Art Center. The building's interior, remodeled at that time, is a rare example of New Bauhaus-style design. The art center, which was established as part of the Works Progress Administration's (WPA) Federal Art Project, has been influential in the development of the city's African-American artists. It is the only continuous survivor of the more than 100 centers established nationwide by the WPA during the 1930s and 40s.	3831 S. Michigan Avenue 60653
4	Bacon's Casino	Cultural Venue	Bacon's Casino opened in 1928 on the site of a former parking garage. The ballroom featured two large decorative fountains at the center of the dance floor. Besides music and dancing, the Casino also hosted boxing and other sporting events. It was a center of black entertainment in the '20s, '30s and '40s. Bacon's Casino was like an oasis in a sea of prejudice for entertainment and recreation through the 1920s and 1930s. The building became United Packinghouse Workers Union Hall, now Charles Hayes Family Investment Center to honor union leader who replaced Mayor Harold Washington in Congress	4900 S. Wabash Avenue 60615



5	Black Metropolis Research Consortium (University of Chicago)	Resource	An unincorporated Chicago-based association of libraries, universities, and other archival institutions with major holdings of materials that document African-American and African diaspora culture, history, and politics, with a specific focus on materials relating to Chicago, the BMRC is dedicated to making its members' relevant holdings broadly accessible. The University of Chicago serves as Host Institution of the BMRC.	5801 S. Ellis Avenue 60637
5	University of Chicago	Resource	The University of Chicago is a private research university, enrolling approximately 5,000 undergraduates and about 15,000 students overall. It was founded by the American Baptist Education Society with a donation from oil magnate and philanthropist John D. Rockefeller and incorporated in 1890. William Rainey Harper became the university's first president in 1891, and the first classes were held in 1892.	5801 S. Ellis Avenue 60637
6	Blanc Gallery		Cliff Rome, owner of the refurbished Parkway Ballroom, has opened an art gallery in Bronzeville, Blanc Gallery. Blanc's bold mission is to engage African Americans and all Chicagoans through the arts and to ignite dialogue on issues of spiritual, political and social significance. Four times a year Blanc showcases one artist in an exploration of a compelling theme. The gallery also fosters a wide-reaching exchange of ideas through its multi-faceted approach.	4500 S. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive 60653
7	Bronzeville Visitor Information Center	Resource	The Bronzeville Visitor Information Center (BVIC), located in the historic Supreme/Liberty Life Building, is an African American Heritage Tourism attraction and cornerstone in Bronzeville's development as a premier travel destination. The BVIC is a point of orientation and information for residents, visitors, guests, students, investors and researchers discovering Bronzeville. The 2005 restoration of the landmark located at 3501 S. Martin Luther King Dr. anchors the Gateway to the 'Black Metropolis Historic District'. The BVIC houses an exhibit gallery featuring a permanent installation, "Bronzeville to Harlem" by Preston Jackson, a bronze and steel interpretation of the 'Renaissance' periods of both communities during the 1920's and 1930's.	3501 S Dr Martin L King Jr Dr 60653
8	Bronzeville Walk of Fame	Community Facility	Along King Drive, between 26th and 35th Streets, there is the Monument to the Great Northern Migration and decorative benches at several bus stops.	3502 S Dr Martin L King Jr Drive 60653
9	Bud Billiken Parade (Chicago Defender Charities)	Resource	Originally organized in 1929 by the <i>Chicago Defender</i> , the Bud Billiken Day Parade takes its name from a Chinese mythical god who represents "things as they should be." Held each August, the parade remains a popular event to celebrate the start of a new school year.	700 E. Oakwood Boulevard 60653





10	Buddy Guy (Buddy Guy's Legends)	Person	George "Buddy" Guy (born July 30, 1936[1]) is an American blues guitarist and singer. Critically acclaimed, he is a pioneer of the Chicago blues sound and has served as an influence to some of the most notable musicians of his generation, including Eric Clapton, Jimmy Page, Jimi Hendrix and Stevie Ray Vaughan. In the 1960s Guy was a member of Muddy Waters' band and was a house guitarist at Chess Records. He can be heard on Howlin' Wolf's "Killing Floor" and Koko Taylor's "Wang Dang Doodle" as well as on his own Chess sides and the series of records he made with harmonica player Junior Wells.	700 S. Wabash Avenue 60605
11	Checkerboard Lounge	Place	With most of the South Side's legendary blues club having come and gone, the Checkerboard Lounge stands as a survivor of the days when Muddy Waters, B.B. King and Chuck Berry played the room. The historic club is too intimate to feature legends these days, but bona fide blues artists from across the South Side (and beyond) still perform here.	423 E. 43rd Street 60653
12	Chicago Bee Building (Chicago Public Library)	Historical Landmark	This Art Deco-style building was constructed as the headquarters for the Chicago Bee newspaper, which was founded by noted African-American entrepreneur Anthony Overton. It originally featured upper-floor apartments and, during the 1930's, housed the offices of the Douglass National Bank and the Overton Hygienic Company, a nationally known cosmetics firm. The newspaper went out of business in the 1940s, although Overton Hygienic continued until the early 1980s. In the mid-1990's, the building was adapted for reuse as a branch of the Chicago Public Library. It is one of nine structures in the Black Metropolis-Bronzeville Historic District.	3647 S. State Street 60609
12	James Gentry	Person	<i>Chicago Bee</i> theater editor who coined the phrase 'Bronzeville' in 1930.	3647 S. State Street 60609
13	Chicago Defender (formerly synagogue for South Side Hebrew Congregation)	Resource	This former synagogue serves as the home of the Defender from 1920 until 1960. Robert Abbott purchased the building in 1920, after it had been converted to warehouse use by the South Side Hebrew Congregation in 1915. Both offices and printing operations were located here. The building's original sheet metal facade and decorative pilasters were removed when Defender offices were installed in the attic. The Defender vacated the building in 1960 for a larger space at 2400 S. Michigan Ave. The building is a member of the Black Metropolis-Bronzeville Historic District. By the mid-1920s, the <i>Chicago Defender</i> had more than 2,000 paid subscribers and over one million readers. Today, the Defender is the nation's longest-running African-American daily newspaper.	3435 S Indiana Avenue 60616



14	Chicago Defender Building (formerly Illinois Automobile Club)	Historical Landmark	This former Illinois Automobile Club building housed the Chicago Defender. Founded by Robert S. Abbott in 1905, the newspaper became nationally known for its outspoken editorial policies on behalf of civil rights issues. The "Great Migration" of the early-20th century was largely initiated by Defender editorials urging African-Americans to leave the poverty of the South for new opportunities in the North. It is one of nine structures in the Black Metropolis-Bronzeville Historic District.	2400 S. Michigan Avenue 60616
15	Chicago Gospel Music Festival	Event	The Chicago Gospel Music Festival showcases the best in local, national and international Gospel Music performers. Now held over four days in three locations including the weekend at Ellis Park in historic Bronzeville, the birth Historic landmarks, buildings, or sites of Gospel Music.	3566 S. Cottage Grove Avenue 60653
16	Chicago History Museum - Keepers of Culture Project	Resource	Items collected as part of the "Neighborhoods, Keepers of Culture" project of the Chicago Historical Society, which focused on the following community areas: Near West Side, East Garfield Park, Lower West Side (Pilsen), South Lawndale (Little Village), Rogers Park, West Ridge, and Douglas and Grand Boulevard on the South Side. Items in this collection include video footage used in an exhibition; oral histories and edited documentaries relating to various areas in Chicago that were used as research for the exhibition; recordings of neighborhood meetings; and recordings of CHS staff project meetings. Items were created by: Street Level Youth Media; Chicago Video Project; Usama Alshaibi; Chicago Historical Society; and others. Topics include Catholics, Jews, Mexican Americans, Polish Americans, Russian Americans, African Americans, Garifuna culture (Black Carib), immigrants, youth, neighborhood life, community organization, housing and public housing projects, race relations, and social conditions.	1601 N. Clark Street 60614
17	Claude A. Barnett/Associated Negro Press	Resource	The Associated Negro Press, a national and international news agency, was established in Chicago in 1919 by Claude Barnett. A graduate of Tuskegee Institute, Barnett was deeply influenced by the self-help/service-to-the-race philosophy of Tuskegee's founder, Booker T. Washington, and served on the governing boards of such organizations as Supreme Liberty Life Insurance, the American Negro Exposition in Chicago of 1940, and Tuskegee. With correspondents and stringers in all major centers of black population, ANP provided its member papers—the vast majority of black newspapers—with a twice-weekly packet of general and feature news that gave African American newspapers a critical, comprehensive coverage of personalities, events, and institutions relevant to the lives of black Americans.	3423 S. Indiana Avenue 60616



18	Club DeLisa	Cultural Venue	Club DeLisa, once located here, was one of the most popular nightclubs in the African-American community of Chicago throughout almost the entirety of its existence, from its opening in 1934 to its closing in early 1958. The club was named for the four DeLisa brothers, who collectively owned and operated it. The building no longer exists.	5512 S. State Street 60621
19	Columbia College, City for Black Music Research Library and Archives	Resource	Founded at Columbia College Chicago in 1983, The Center for Black Music Research is the only organization of its kind. It exists to illuminate the significant role that black music plays in world culture by serving as a nexus for all who value black music, by promoting scholarly thought and knowledge about black music, and by providing a safe haven for the materials and information that document the black music experience across Africa and the diaspora.	600 S. Michigan Avenue 60605
20	Dreamland Café	Place	A "black and tan," as clubs that admitted patrons of both races were called, William Bottoms' Dreamland Café (not to be confused with Paddy Harmon's Dreamland Ballroom in the West Loop), was a popular early Chicago jazz club. Joe "King" Oliver played gigs here with Bill Johnson, Jimmy Noone, Sidney Bechet, and Freddie Keppard between 1919 and 1920, at which point he took his Original Creole Jazz Band on a west coast swing. Oliver split time between the Dreamland Café and The Lincoln Gardens upon his return. A few years later, in 1925, Louis Armstrong played here with Li'l Hardin under the name Louis Armstrong's Dreamland Syncopators.	3618 S. State Street 60609
21	DuSable Museum of African American History/ Dr. Margaret Burroughs	Resource	The DuSable Museum of African American History located in the historic Washington Park area of Chicago, in Washington Park, unites art, history and culture. Founded in 1961 by teacher and art historian Dr. Margaret Burroughs and other leading Chicago citizens, the DuSable Museum is one of the few independent institutions of its kind in the United States. Developed to preserve and interpret the experiences and achievements of people of African descent, it is dedicated to the collection, documentation, preservation and study of the history and culture of Africans and African Americans. The DuSable Museum is proud of its diverse holdings that number more than 15,000 pieces and include paintings, sculpture, print works and historical memorabilia. Special exhibitions, workshops and lectures are featured to highlight works by specific artists, historic events or collections on loan from individuals or institutions.	740 E. 56th Place 60637
22	Elite Club	Place	Located first at 3030 S. State Street, the Elite Club hosted jazz greats such as Jelly Roll Morton, Earl Hines, and Alberta Hunter. It operated from 1920 until 1928.	3030 S. State Street 60616



23	Faie African Gallery		Faie African Art began in 1995 with a trip to Mali and Guinea in West Africa. The gallery showcases outstanding pieces from the Western, Eastern, Central and Southern Regions of Africa. African art continues to evolve with the traditional themes being echoed by modern artists. Faie's purpose is to make quality African art, usually found in private collections and museums, available to wider audience, particularly those in the Diaspora.	4317 S. Cottage Grove Avenue 60653
24	Gallery Guichard		Since its opening in 2005, Gallery Guichard has been Bronzeville's preeminent gallery of art. Housed in a beautifully restored Italianate row house from the turn of the 20th century, Gallery Guichard is nestled on the historic Martin Luther King Dr. Of great pride to the Bronzeville community, Gallery Guichard represents artists from around the world but specializes in art of the African Diaspora. Featuring a new artist every six to eight weeks, the Gallery has hosted several international exhibits as well as local and national exhibits. All of their work is original and is in several mediums including paintings, sculptures, ceramic, and even furniture.	3521 S Dr Martin L King Jr Dr 60653
25	George Cleveland Hall Branch Library	Historical Landmark	Named for prominent African American surgeon and civic leader Dr. George Cleveland Hall, this venerable Bronzeville institution opened on January 18, 1932 under the direction of Vivian G. Harsh, the first African American to head a branch of the Chicago Public Library. Harsh compiled an immense African American research collection and initiated pioneering programs promoting the work of noted Chicago writers, including, from 1933 to 1953, the "Book Review and Lecture Forum," an influential discussion group on African American literature, current events and social issues. With its block-like composition, random-ashlar stone facades, abstracted Classical-style detailing, and combination of hip and pyramidal roofs, the Hall Branch is unlike any other library in Chicago. Designed by one of the successor firms to Shepley, Rutan and Coolidge, the library was conceived as a neighborhood "landmark," which it has remained to this day.	4801 S. Michigan Avenue 60615
25	Vivian G. Harsh (George Cleveland Hall branch library)	Person	Harsh was the first African American to head a branch of the Chicago Public Library After being influenced by her participation in The Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, founded by Carter G. Woodson, Harsh dedicated herself to collecting literary works by African Americans. She also created ongoing cultural programs and intellectual forums at the George Cleveland Hall Branch Library. Hall's strong commitment to black history led to the development of a "Special Negro Collection," which was nationally known by the 1930s. Today, the Vivian G. Harsh Research Collection of Afro-American History and Literature continues to grow and expand under	4801 S. Michigan Avenue 60615



			the stewardship of the Chicago Public Library Woodson Regional Branch staff.	
26	Gwendolyn Brooks (House, COC Landmark)	Person	Prolific author and Pulitzer Prize-winning poet, Gwendolyn Brooks resided in this Chicago home from 1953 to 1994. A dominant figure of 20th-century American poetry and a leading force in the Chicago Black Renaissance literary movement from the 1930s thru the 1950s, Brooks is regarded by literary critics as one of the United States' most significant poets. Her first collection of poems, <i>A Street in Bronzeville</i> , appeared in 1945 and was followed by other major works including <i>Annie Allen</i> in 1949. In 1950, Brooks became the first African American in history to win a Pulitzer Prize; in 1985, she was named Poet Laureate of the State of Illinois. For over seven decades, the poetry of Gwendolyn Brooks provided personal and communal insight into the desire and disillusionment, humor and injustice of African American life experiences on Chicago's South Side.	7428 S. Evans Avenue 60619
27	Harold Washington Cultural Center	Resource	Constructed in 1998, the Harold Washington Cultural Center (HWCC) is the vision and innovation of the former Ald. Dorothy Tillman and the Board of Directors of Tobacco Road Inc., the nonprofit entity that initially owned and operated the Center before it was foreclosed on. Located in the Bronzeville area of Chicago's South side, HWCC is a state-of-the-art, 42,000-sq. ft. performing arts and education facility. It was built as part of the revitalization efforts of the Grand Boulevard neighborhood and has offered the community a wide range of educational programs and services in the sphere of arts and entertainment from business and performance management, digital recording and production to classical music instruction, marketing, development and distribution. Although the building has been in foreclosure since 2010, and the City Colleges of Chicago has expressed interest in acquiring the cultural center, its interim uses and projected community benefits remain unchanged.	4701 S Dr Martin L King Jr Dr 60615
28	Harsh Collections (Woodson Library)	Resource	Today, the Vivian G. Harsh Research Collection of Afro-American History and Literature continues to grow and expand under the stewardship of the Chicago Public Library Woodson Regional Branch staff.	9525 S. Halsted Street 60628





29	Jazz Institute of Chicago	School	The Jazz Institute of Chicago was founded in 1969 by a small band of jazz fans, writers, club owners and musicians who came together to preserve the historical roots of the Chicago's music and to ensure that opportunities for the music to be heard would not be lost in a time when rock was subsuming cultural economics. Among the founding members were pianist Art Hodes, Muhal Richard Abrams, who a few years earlier had also co-founded the Association for the Advancement of Creative Musicians (AACM), Harriett Choice, then music writer for the Chicago Tribune, Joe Segal, whose Jazz Showcase has kept the flame for bebop lit for 50 years, Bob Koester, owner of Delmark Records, Don DeMicheal, drummer and editor of Downbeat magazine, jazz promoter and supporter Penny Tyler and several other devoted souls.	410 S. Michigan Avenue 60605
30	Little Black Pearl Art Center	Resource	Little Black Pearl works diligently to counter the challenges urban youth face by providing a safe environment, positive role models, and rigorous program and skill development activities and opportunities. The center's 18-year history has successfully proven that it is possible to marry art and entrepreneurship through real life application of talent, interest and skills.	1060 E. 47th Street 60653
31	Lorraine Hansberry	Person	Pioneering playwright Lorraine Hansberry drew inspiration from her childhood in Bronzeville, and specifically the traumatic experience of her family being denied housing because of their race, when writing <i>A Raisin in the Sun</i> . This groundbreaking play was the first drama by an African-American woman to be produced on Broadway.	6140 S. Rhodes Avenue 60637
32	Micheaux Film Corporation	Business	Before Hollywood, Chicago was the movie capital of the world. The Micheaux Film Corporation. produced hundreds of high-class photoplays featuring African-Americans.	3457 S. State Street 60616
33	Monument to the Great Northern Migration	Historical Landmark	Alison Saar's bronze figure is a testament to the thousands of African Americans who migrated to Chicago in the early 20th century in search of greater freedom and opportunity. The traveler's hand is raised in salutation to his new home. In his other hand he carries a worn suitcase symbolic of his journey, dreams and talents. The bollards surrounding the monument are also suitcases that are textured with a pattern derived from the tin ceilings of the era. The figure is oriented to the north, symbolizing the traveler's destination.	Eastgate Place & King Drive 60616
34	Muddy Waters (home)	Person	Muddy Waters was Chicago's premier blues artist. At his home, impromptu jam sessions with pals like Howlin' Wolf and Chuck Berry erupted in the front yard. Waters lived here for 20 years, until 1974, but today the building stands vacant. In 2013, the bluesman's former home made the list of 10 most endangered historic buildings in Illinois.	4339 S. Lake Park Avenue 60653



35	Northeastern Illinois University - Great Black Music Project	Resource	Illinois is known as the Land of Lincoln, but it is also the land of Jelly Roll Morton, Louis Armstrong, and Mahalia Jackson. Those legendary African-American musicians and many others made Illinois their home at some point in their lives. Godfrey Mason has been dedicated to locating and sharing information about such artists through the establishment of the Great Black Music Project (GBMP) at the Carruthers Center for Inner City Studies. The GBMP is an online archive that showcases African-American artists who were born in Illinois or had residency within the state during their lives. The archive includes audio and video recordings, photos, news clips, and essays featuring the work of musicians, actors, poets, and filmmakers.	5500 N. St. Louis Avenue 60625
36	Parkway Ballroom	Cultural Venue	In 2002, Chef Cliff Rome reopened the renovated Parkway Ballroom for special event use. The Parkway was a well-used ballroom during the heyday of the Metropolis.	410 E. 45th Street 60653
37	Pekin Theater	Place	Originally built in 1892 as a beer garden, it was converted in 1905 to the 900-seat Pekin Theater by Robert T. Motts, an African-American street-hustler who allegedly financed the club with gambling earnings. It was the first theater in Chicago to feature black entertainment and admit interracial audiences, and the musical director was famed composer Joe Jordan. (Inspired by the club, Jordan penned "The Pekin Rag.") The Pekin featured black vaudeville acts, minstrel shows, moving pictures, and highbrow plays and even served as a makeshift house of assembly for local African-American politics. After Motts died, the new owners removed the theater seats, and reopened the club as a dance hall in 1918, at which point it became known as the Pekin Inn. The building no longer exists.	2700 S. State Street 60616
38	Pershing Hotel (El Grotto)	Cultural Venue	The Pershing was a popular jazz club hosting greats such as Charlie Parker. The facility had three venues - a lounge, a ballroom, and a supper club,	6412 S. Cottage Grove Avenue 60637
39	Regal Theater	Historical Landmark	The Regal Theater, located in the heart of Bronzeville on Chicago's south side, was an important night club and music venue in Chicago. Part of the Balaban and Katz chain, the lavishly decorated venue, with plush carpeting and velvet drapes featured some of the most celebrated black entertainers in America. The Regal also featured motion pictures and live stage shows. The building no longer exists.	4710 S Dr Martin L King Jr Dr 60615
40	Rhumboogie Club	Cultural Venue	The Rhumboogie Café, also referred to as the Rhumboogie Club, was an important, but short-lived nightclub located at 343 East 55th Street, Chicago. Opened in April 1942, the Rhumboogie was owned by Charlie Glenn and boxing champion Joe Louis. The club closed as the result of a fire on December 31, 1945. Reopening in June 1946, it never regained its	341 E. Garfield Boulevard 60637



			old form, and closed for good in May 1947. The building no longer exists.	
41	Richard Wright (House, COC Landmark)	Person	Built in 1893, This two-story residence in Chicago's Bronzeville neighborhood served as home to celebrated author Richard Wright and his extended family from 1929 to 1932. While residing in the second-floor apartment, Wright effectively began his professional literary career writing his first novel, <i>Lawd Today!</i> , which was published posthumously in 1963. He earned the Guggenheim Fellowship in 1939 and then published two of his most influential books, <i>Native Son</i> (1940) and <i>Black Boy</i> (1945). <i>Native Son</i> , a novel set in the slums of Chicago's South Side, was later adapted for stage and screen. These controversial and powerful texts examined race relations in the 20th-century and are credited with forever changing American culture while catapulting Wright into the national spotlight as one of the most noted writers of Chicago's Black Renaissance literary movement.	4831 S. Vincennes Avenue 60615
42	Royal Gardens (Lincoln Gardens)	Place	Lincoln Gardens could accommodate around 1,000 dancers and was open from the early years of the century. It was originally known as the Royal Gardens, but the name was changed to Lincoln Gardens between February and July 1921. After a fire late in 1924 the hall was magnificently refurbished for its reopening on October 28, 1925, when the name was changed to the New Charleston Café; it later became known as the Café de Paris. Dave Peyton led a band there from late November 1926, but in June 1927, it was bombed — perhaps in gang warfare — and closed. The residency at the Royal Gardens in 1918 of the Original Creole Band, led by Bill Johnson, established the dance hall's reputation as a venue for jazz, and initiated a series of appearances by New Orleans musicians that were of great significance for the development of the music in Chicago. King Oliver's Creole Jazz Band played a residency from June 17, 1922 until February 1924.	459 E. 31st Street 60616
43	Savoy Ballroom	Historical Landmark	The Savoy Ballroom in Chicago was opened on Thanksgiving Eve, November 23, 1927 at 4733 South Parkway. Originally featuring primarily Jazz artists, including Louis Armstrong, Count Basie, Duke Ellington, Earl Hines, Stan Kenton, Dizzy Gillespie, Ella Fitzgerald, Gene Krupa, Woody Herman, the Savoy also hosted other activities, such as boxing, figure skating, and basketball exhibitions featuring the Savoy Big Five, who would later change their name to the Harlem Globetrotters. The building has been demolished.	4733 S Dr Martin L King Jr Dr 60615



44	Sunset Café/Grand Terrace Café	Historical Landmark	Following a 1921 remodeling, this simple automobile garage was transformed into one of the City's earliest and most legendary jazz venues. Its house orchestra featured such famed musicians as Louis Armstrong, Johnny Dodds, and Earl "Fatha" Hines, while its floor shows introduced the latest dances to local audiences. Many promising young artists, including Bix Beiderbecke, Jimmy Dorsey, Benny Goodman, and Gene Krupa, got their start at late-night sessions here. After a 1937 remodeling, it was renamed the Grand Terrace Cafe and remained a popular night club until 1950. It later housed the office of the Second Ward Regular Democratic Organization and became a hardware store in the 1970s. It is one of nine structures in the Black Metropolis-Bronzeville Historic District.	315 E. 35th Street 60616
45	Sutherland Lounge (Sutherland Hotel)	Cultural Venue	Though it's now an apartment complex, the old Sutherland Hotel once was home to Louis Armstrong. Moreover, Miles Davis spent most Christmas holidays in residence, playing in the Sutherland Lounge, as did everyone from Dizzy Gillespie and John Coltrane to Earl Hines and Erroll Garner. In recent years, South Side jazz trumpeter and cultural activist Malachi Thompson has been presenting music festivals at the Sutherland.	4659 S. Drexel Boulevard 60653
46	Taft, Lorado Midway Studios	Historical Landmark	Lorado Taft (1860-1936) was one of the nation's most famous early-20th century sculptors and educators, whose works include Fountain of Time, which is located at the west end of nearby Midway Plaisance. In 1906, Taft founded Midway Studios in a converted barn at 60th and Ellis streets. The barn was moved one block east to this location in 1929, its various additions were reconstructed, and both were attached to an existing brick house.	6016 S. Ingleside Avenue 60637
47	The Palm Tavern	Place	Opened in 1933, the Palm became one of Bronzeville's most important nightclubs featuring Duke Ellington, Billie Holiday, Count Basie, Miles Davis, and Muddy Waters.	446 E. 47th Street 60653
48	Victory Sculpture	Historical Landmark	This structure was erected to honor the meritorious achievements of the Eighth Regiment of the Illinois National Guard, an African-American unit that served in France during World War I as part of the 370th U.S. Infantry (also see Eighth Regiment Armory). The bronze panels and the soldier atop the monument, which was added in 1936, were designed by Leonard Crunelle, a former pupil of noted Chicago sculptor Lorado Taft. The monument was dedicated on Armistice Day (November 11th) in 1928. It is the site of an annual Memorial Day ceremony and is one of nine structures in the Black Metropolis-Bronzeville Historic District.	3500 S Dr Martin L King Jr Dr 60616

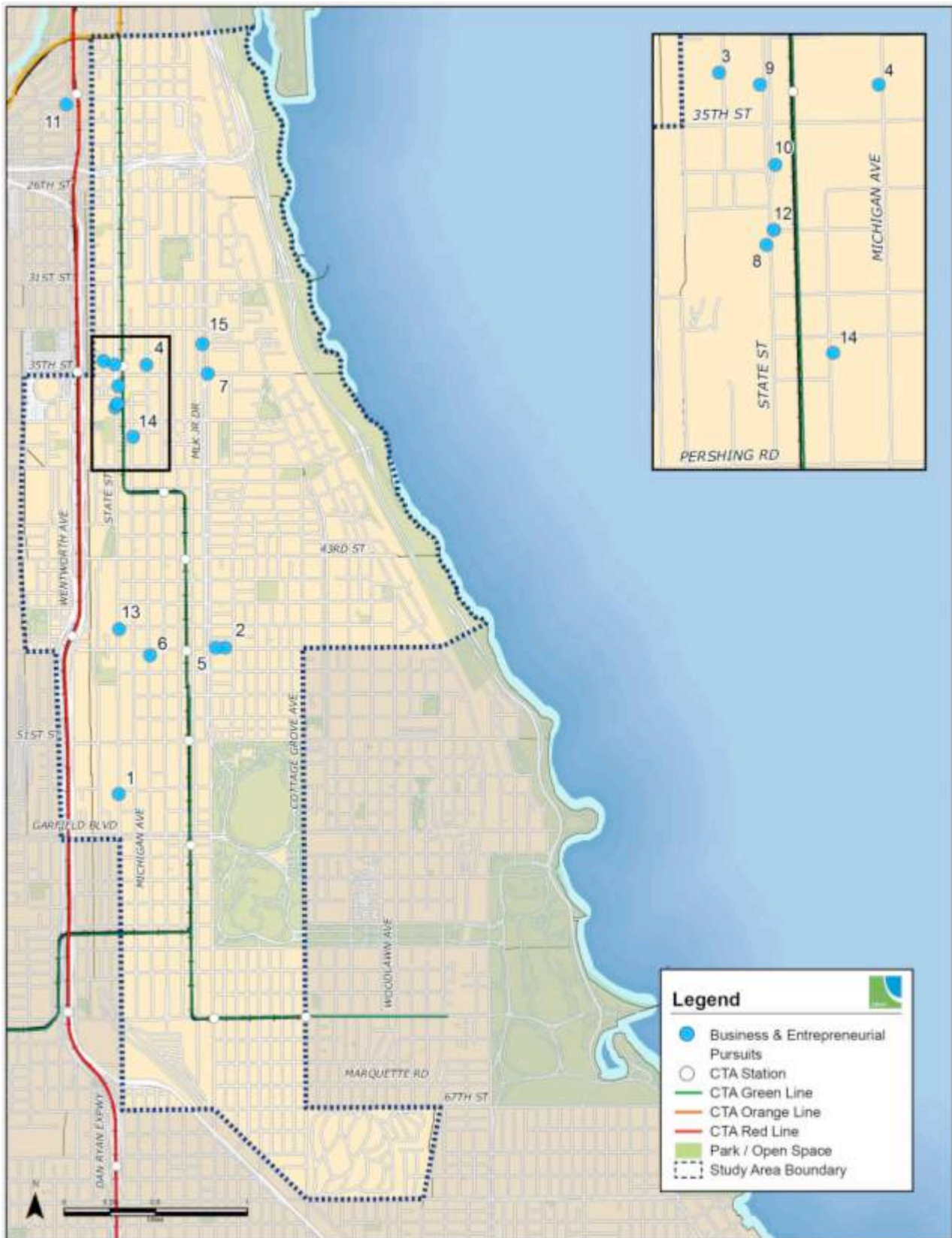


49	Willie Dixon's Blue Heaven (formerly Chess Records)	Historical Landmark	Between 1957 and 1967, brothers Leonard and Phil Chess made 2120 S. Michigan Avenue the creative home for such artists as Muddy Waters, Willie Dixon, Howlin' Wolf, Sonny Boy Williamson, and Chuck Berry. Many of these musicians were southern-born African-Americans who had come to Chicago in the wake of the "great migration" of the early- and mid-20th century. The notoriety of Chess Records inspired other musicians including the Rolling Stones and the Yardbirds, to record here in the mid-1960s. The building now houses the Blues Heaven Foundation, begun by blues legend Willie Dixon to promote blues history and support working musicians.	2120 S. Michigan Avenue 60616
50	WVON 1690 (radio station)	Business	WVON has always been more than just a radio station. During a time when Blacks were actively involved in the Civil Rights Movement, WVON was the source of information for local and national affairs. During the riots that followed the death of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., WVON on-air personalities were there to lift the spirits and ease the tension that had erupted in neighborhoods across the city. For 40 years, WVON has taken the pulse of the African-American community of Chicago. It continues to provide a platform on which Black Chicago can air its concerns, voice its differences, and discuss the issues that affect our society.	1000 E. 87th Street 60619





Figure 3. Business and Entrepreneurial Pursuits Heritage Assets Map



<b>Table 2: Business and Entrepreneurial Pursuits Heritage Assets Map</b>				
<b>MAP ID#</b>	<b>Asset</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Address</b>
1	Baldwin Ice Cream	Business	Kit Baldwin, one of the founders, bought and renamed this business in 1946. Initially it was named Seven Links, then Service Links.	5316 S. State Street 60609
2	Ben Franklin Store	Business	Chain of discount stores started around 1927. This was the only, or one of the only stores in the chain to be black-owned, by local "policy kings", the Jones Brothers.	436-444 E. 47th Street 60653
3	Bronzeville Community Development Partnership	Resource	The Bronzeville Community Development Partnership is a community organization that focuses on information technology, heritage tourism, hospitality workforce development and training, preservation, and sustainability. For years, it was located in the historic Supreme/Liberty Life building, but is currently housed in the technology park incubator at Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT).	3440 S. Dearborn Street 60616
4	Chicago Branch of National Negro Business League	Resource	Approximately 400 professional men and women belonged to this branch of the National Negro League at 3456 S. Michigan Avenue. The organization catered to the hundreds of Black entrepreneurs that lived and worked in Bronzeville, during the vibrant Metropolis period.	3456 S. Michigan Avenue 60616
5	Dempsey Travis	Person	Dempsey Travis was an important local businessman and civic leader. His Travis RE realty firm was located at this address.	412 E. 47th Street 60653
6	Edward, George, and McKissack (Mack) Jones	Person	The Jones Brothers were the "policy" kings of Bronzeville, and owners of the Ben Franklin "five and ten" store. By 1946, the Joneses were at the top of the \$25 million-a-year policy syndicate in Chicago. The three brothers, Edward, George, and McKissack (Mack), started out small, running a policy station from the back entrance of their tailor shop. Lead by brother Ed, the Jones trio turned a nickel game into a sophisticated business enterprise, which included the Jones Brothers Ben Franklin Store on 47th Street, the world's only black owned department store. The brothers made high-level civic and social connections, but the glamorous and lavish lifestyle of the Jones boys could not be separated from the criminal activity that created it. Kidnappings, death threats, corrupt politics, violence, and jail time were also prominent in the brothers' lives.	4723 S. Michigan Avenue 60615
7	Frank Gillespie (Chicago Supreme Liberty Life Insurance Company)	Person	Gillespie founded the most successful early African-American owned and operated insurance company in the northern United States, Supreme Liberty Life Insurance, in 1919.	3501 S Dr Martin L King Jr Dr 60653
7	John H. Johnson (Jet, Ebony, Johnson Publishing)	Person	John H. Johnson started the company with a \$500 loan on his mother's furniture. The first office of Johnson Publishing Co., which was then called Negro Digest Publishing Co., was on the second floor of the Supreme Life Insurance Co. building in a room of a private law firm. Johnson soon found a new building to house EBONY and its sister publication Negro Digest, on South State Street in Chicago.	3501 S Dr Martin L King Jr Dr 60653



7	Liberty Life/Supreme Life Insurance Company	Historical Landmark	This was the longtime headquarters of the most successful early African-American owned and operated insurance company in the northern United States. Founded in 1919 by Frank L. Gillespie (as the Liberty Life Insurance Company), the firm moved in 1921 into the second floor of this building, which had been constructed by the Roosevelt State Bank. Liberty Life bought the entire structure in 1924 and, in 1929, merged with two out-of-state firms to form the Supreme Life Insurance Company of America. In 1950, after becoming one of the few major businesses of "Black Metropolis" to survive the Great Depression, the company modernized the building by covering the original classical-style facade with porcelain-metal panels. It is one of nine structures in the Black Metropolis-Bronzeville Historic District.	3501 S. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive 60653
8	J.T.H. Woods Hardware Company	Business	As seen in Rhea's directory of black-owned businesses, Woods Hardware advertised as the "first and only" black-owned and operated hardware store in the country.	3636 S. State Street 60609
9	Jesse Binga (Binga Bank)	Person	Jesse Binga's pioneering ventures in banking and real estate made him a nationally known figure of black business achievement in the early 20th century. A native of Detroit, he moved to Chicago in the early 1890s. Buying a succession of run-down buildings, and repaired them as rentals. At the time, white-owned banks refused to lend to African-Americans, inspiring Binga to establish his own bank in 1908. Thousands of African-Americans opened accounts, and the Binga Bank prospered. It attained a state charter in 1921, and eventually occupied imposing buildings at the northwest corner of State and 35th Streets. With the success of his businesses, Binga purchased a home at 5922 South Park Avenue (now King Drive), in what was then an exclusively white neighborhood. Though the house was bombed five times by disgruntled neighbors, Binga and his family remained steadfast. In 1929, he built the grand Binga Arcade, with offices, shops and a dance floor, at 35th and State Streets. The Great Depression of the 1930s led to the failure of Binga's businesses. Accused and convicted of financial irregularities, Binga began serving a ten-year jail sentence in 1935. Three years later, the petitions of appreciative Bronzeville residents and famed attorney Clarence Darrow secured his release. Binga's last years were spent as a handyman at St. Anselm's Church.	3452 S. State Street 60616



10	Jordan, J. Building	Historical Landmark	The J. Jordan building was the first black-owned and financed building in Chicago. Until the its construction in 1916, the black business community was largely housed in existing residential and small storefront buildings which were adapted for business purposes, often with unsatisfactory results. New construction was limited mainly to a handful of small one- and two-story structures, most built by white speculators looking to capitalize on Bronzeville's growth . The Jordan Building, at the northeast corner of State and 36th streets, was a three-story combination store and apartment building, commissioned by songwriter and music publisher Joseph J. Jordan. Its construction was followed by a series of ambitious black-owned and -financed building projects which were carried out along South State Street throughout the 1920s.	3529 S. State Street 60609
11	On Leong Merchants Association Building	Historical Landmark	The On Leong Merchants Association Building, designed in 1926 and built to accommodate a range of community uses, is the most prominent physical symbol of Chicago's Chinese heritage. Chicago's Chinese community was originally concentrated on Clark Street in the Loop, until construction of federal buildings there forced relocation to the near South Side. The On Leong Merchants Association effectively formed "New Chinatown" by securing significant commercial space at the intersection of Wentworth Avenue and Cermak Road, and moving its merchant membership en masse to the new location in 1912.	2216 S. Wentworth Avenue 60616
12	Overton Hygienic/Douglass National Bank Building	Historical Landmark	Built by noted entrepreneur Anthony Overton, this building served as the headquarters for the Overton Hygienic Company, which was one of the nation's foremost producers of African-American cosmetics. This four-story structure also housed several of Overton's other business ventures, including the Victory Life Insurance Company and Douglass National Bank, the first nationally chartered, African-American-owned bank. Offices on the second floor were rented to area physicians, lawyers, music producers, and architects. It is one of nine structures in the Black Metropolis-Bronzeville Historic District.	3617 S. State Street 60609
12	Overton Hyienic Business Incubator	Historical Landmark	After siting vacant for many years, the Mid-South Planning and Development Commission acquired the building to use it as an incubator for small businesses and startups within the Black Metropolis neighborhood. The building was foreclosed on in 2004, and the Davis Group, a private real estate company, acquired it in 2005.	3619-27 S. State Street 60609
12	Walter T. Bailey (office in Overton Building)	Person	Bailey was an African-American architect from Kewanee, Illinois. He was the first African American graduate with a bachelor of science degree in architectural engineering from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He worked at the Tuskegee Institute, and practiced in both Memphis and Chicago. Bailey designed numerous buildings in Bronzeville.	3619 S. State Street 60609

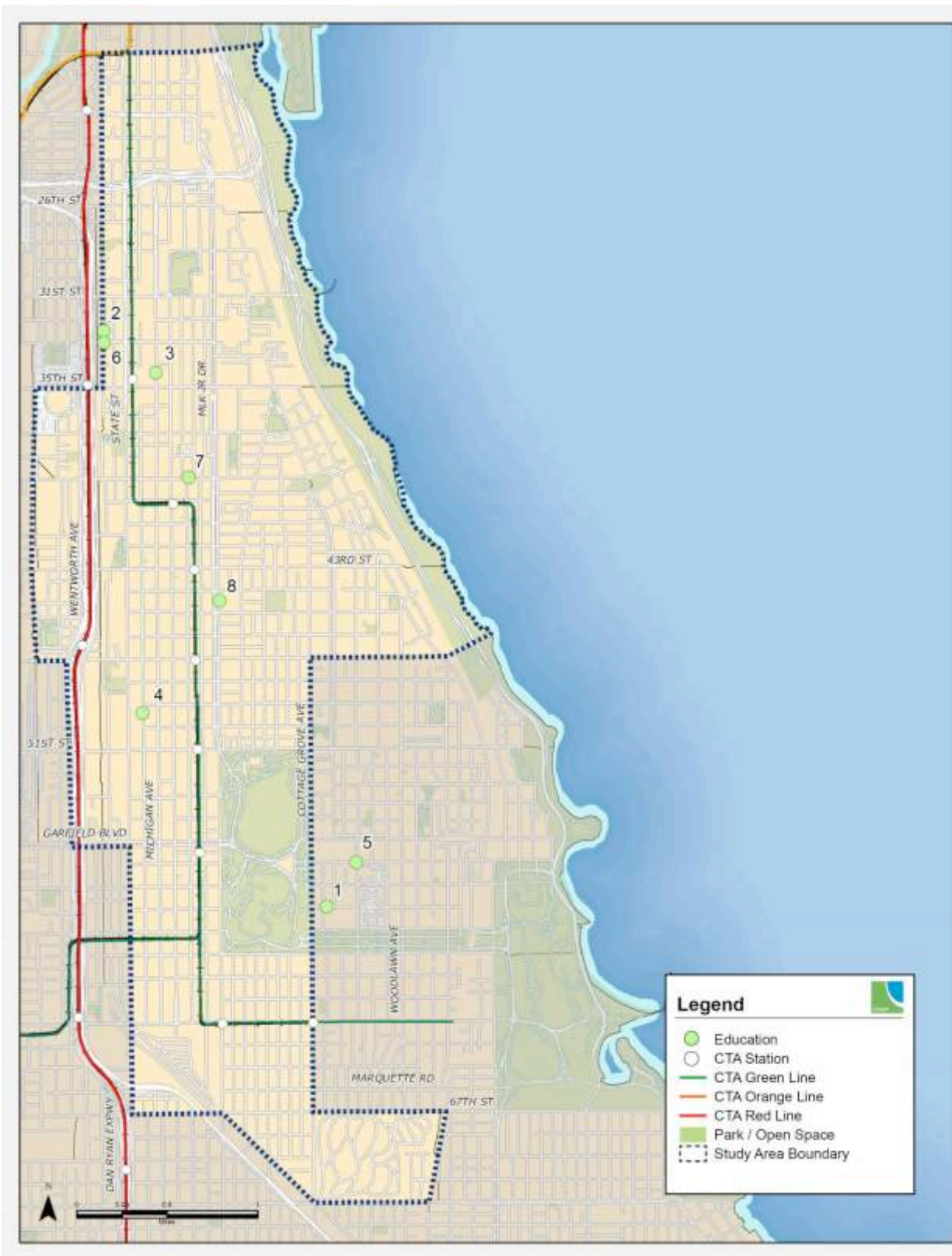


13	Parker House Sausage	Historical Landmark	Parker House Sausage Company has been a family owned and operated business since 1919. Mr. Judge Henry Parker was a migrant from the farms of rural Montgomery County in Tennessee, who started his sausage business because he missed the taste of his mother's home cooked pork sausages. An expanded horse and wagon retail business grew so successfully that Judge Parker decided to step up to the wholesale level, selling to food stores, meat markets and restaurants.	4605 S. State Street 60609
14	Renaissance Collaborative	Resource	The Renaissance Collaborative, Inc. (TRC) promotes self-sufficiency through an innovative and comprehensive network of supportive housing, employment, and educational services. It operates several senior housing in Bronzeville. It is headquartered in the historic Wabash Avenue YMCA building.	3757 S Wabash Avenue 60653
15	Robert R. Jackson (Home)	Person	Jackson owned and operated the Fraternal Press, the nation's largest Black printing company.	3366 S. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive 60616
16	Stock Yards National Bank (Former)	Historical Landmark	Completed in 1925, this grandly-scaled Colonial Revival-style building originally housed two banks that served the industries and employees of the nearby Union Stock Yards and Central Manufacturing District. With its Palladian windows and central clock tower, the design is closely modeled on Independence Hall in Philadelphia. Abraham Epstein, a Chicago architect and engineer who is perhaps best known for his designs for the reconstruction of the Union Stock Yards after a fire in 1934, designed the building. Located right outside Bronzeville, but very important to the history of the Black metropolis.	4150 S. Halsted Street 60609





**Figure 4. Education Heritage Assets**



**Table 2. Education Heritage Assets**

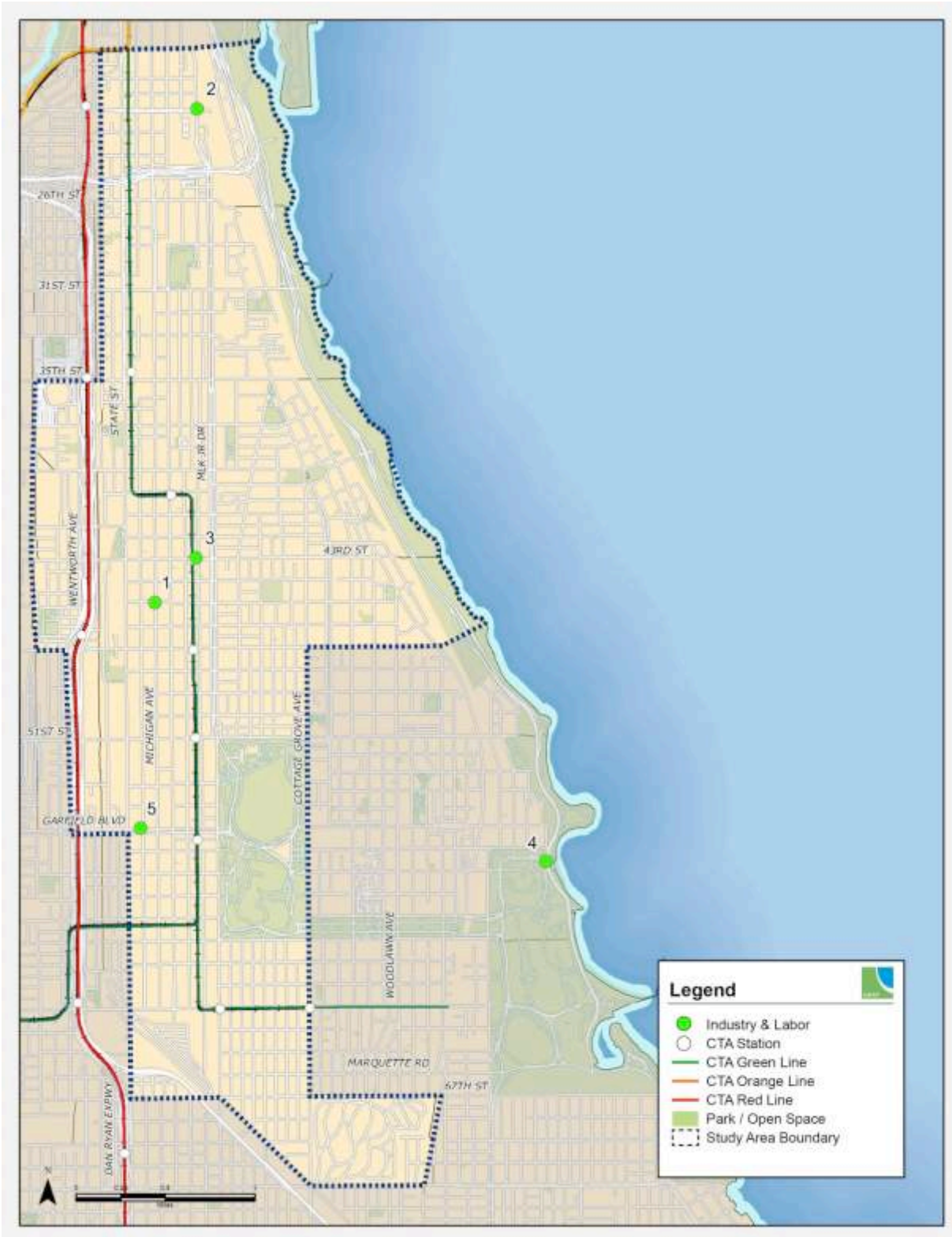
<b>MAP ID#</b>	<b>Asset</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Address</b>
1	American School of Home Correspondence	Historical Landmark	Built as the headquarters of a large education-by-mail school, this building is remarkably original in design, while reflecting the dignity of traditional academic architecture. In composition and detailing, it is a masterpiece of early-20th century Arts & Crafts-style design. The architects, brothers Irving and Allen Pond, were known for their buildings' exceptional brickwork, asymmetrical massing, and distinctive decorative detail. Among Pond & Pond's other designs are the Northwestern University Settlement House and the Dining Hall at Jane Addams' Hull House--both Chicago Landmarks.	850 E. 58th Street 60637
2	Armour Institute of Technology Laboratory (Maintenance Garage)	Historical Landmark	This modest building is part of what was originally the Armour Institute of Technology, which merged with the Lewis Institute in 1940 to form the Illinois Institute of Technology. Armour came to be after Chicago minister Frank Gunsaulus delivered what came to be known as the "Million Dollar Sermon." At a time when advanced education was generally reserved for the elite, Gunsaulus said that with a million dollars he could build a school for students of all backgrounds. Meatpacker Philip Danforth Armour, the richest man in Chicago, heard the sermon and took him up on the idea, contributing a million dollars for a school of practical studies. The Armour Institute was founded in 1893.	3240 S. Federal Street 60616
3	De La Salle Institute	School	Founded in 1889, De La Salle is a Catholic secondary school. It is one of several institutions that have remained in Bronzeville for over a century. Five mayors of Chicago have been alumni of the De La Salle Institute.	3434 S. Michigan Avenue 60616
4	DuSable High School	School	DuSable, named for Chicago's first settler and founder, was the first Chicago public school built for African American students.	4934 S. Wabash Avenue 60615
5	Enrico Fermi Memorial (Site of the First Self-Sustaining Nuclear Reaction)	Historical Landmark	After years of experiments, physicist Enrico Fermi and a team of scientists working at the University of Chicago became convinced that if a sufficient quantity of uranium could be brought together under proper conditions, a self-sustaining reaction would occur. On December 2, 1942, in makeshift laboratories constructed at the university's Stagg Field Stadium, they initiated a 28-minute nuclear chain reaction that they controlled, and stopped. The atomic age had begun. Stagg Field was demolished in the late 1960s and, on the 25th anniversary of the nuclear reaction, a 12-foot bronze sculpture, entitled "Nuclear Energy," was dedicated on the site.	5600 S. Ellis Avenue 60637



6	Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT)	School	Illinois Institute of Technology is a Ph.D.-granting research university, with world-renowned programs in engineering, architecture, the sciences, humanities, psychology, business, law, and design. Founded in 1940, but tracing its roots back to the 1890s with the foundings of Armour Institute of Technology and Lewis Institute, IIT brings a focused, interdisciplinary approach to education.	3300 S Federal Street 60616
7	Phillips, Wendell High School	Historical Landmark	Wendell Phillips High School has been a significant educational center for Chicago's African-American community for more than 80 years, educating many who rose to prominence in the arts and other professions. Built in 1904, the school is a handsome Classical Revival building by prominent Chicago architect William Bryce Mundie. The school was named for Wendell Phillips (1811-1884), the staunch abolitionist who was one of the leading figures in the American anti-slavery movement. Early yearbooks portray a racial mix in the student body, but by 1920 the school had become Chicago's first predominately African-American high school. During this period, the school's winning basketball teams formed the nucleus of a group that later became the Harlem Globetrotters. Numerous noteworthy individuals have attended Wendell Phillips and been inducted in their "Hall of Fame," including well-known alumni such as entertainers Nat "King" Cole and Dinah Washington, businessmen John H. Johnson and George E. Johnson, and Alonzo S. Parham, the first African-American to attend West Point. Maudelle Brown Bousfield, the school's principal from 1939 to 1950, was the first African-American principal of a Chicago public school and was an important civic leader.	244 E. Pershing Road 60653
8	Sacred Keepers Sustainability Lab & Garden	Community Resource	The Sacred Keepers Sustainability Lab is a Chicago based, non-profit organization dedicated to sustainability and environmental service learning, youth driven social philanthropy and connecting our youth to nature and indigenous cultures. SKSL aims to teach our youth about the world around them by integrating environmental sciences, indigenous culture studies, service and philanthropy in effort to inspire our children to become true inheritors of the Earth. Indigenous cultures have practiced sustainability throughout time, honoring Earth's natural laws with respect to their dependencies on Her - they were the original Sacred Keepers of the Earth.	4445 S. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive 60653



Figure 5. Industry and Labor Heritage Assets





<b>Table 3. Industry and Labor Heritage Assets</b>				
<b>MAP ID</b>	<b>Asset</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Address</b>
1	(Gustavus) Swift House	Historical Landmark	Swift, founder of the giant Swift meatpacking company, was an innovator in the business, creating many of the ancillary businesses that utilize discarded portions of butchered animals - oleomargarine, soap, glue, fertilizer, hairbrushes, buttons, knife handles, and pharmaceutical preparations such as pepsin and insulin. Gustavus F. Swift gave this mansion as a wedding gift to his daughter Helen who was marrying Nelson Morris, the son of another meatpacking magnate. This marble-clad mansion has changed hands over the years; it has been a funeral home and headquarters for the Chicago Urban League. Currently it is being used as the home for the Inner-City Youth Foundation.	4500 S. Michigan Avenue 60653
2	Calumet Plant, R.R. Donnelly & Sons Company (Lakeside Technology Center)	Historical Landmark	The Calumet Plant and now known as the Lakeside Technology Center, was built between 1912 and 1929 to house the operations of the RR Donnelley printing company. The building supported printing operations for the company and was the Donnelley headquarters until 1991 when they moved the headquarters to 77 West Wacker. In 1993, the plant was closed after the discontinuation by Sears, Roebuck and Co. of its mail-order catalog, which had been the last major account printed there. In 1999 the building was retrofitted and is currently owned by Digital Realty Trust operating as a carrier hotel or data center. The newly outfitted building was the first and largest planned carrier hotel in the United States.	350 E. Cermak Road 60616
3	Cermak Road Bridge District	Historical District	This small district is the finest intact, early 20th-century riverfront industrial precinct in Chicago. It is an especially significant ensemble of four large industrial buildings, clustered around the Cermak Road Bridge, which is the City's last-remaining double leaf Scherzer Rolling Lift Bridge. The District commemorates the importance of the Chicago River in the economic development of the City and conveys how the interconnected river and rail network made Chicago a national center of commerce. Individually, the buildings are fine examples of early 20th-century industrial architecture, and collectively they represent an almost vanished aspect of Chicago's historical industrial streetscapes.	2146 S. Jefferson Street 60616
4	Museum of Science and Industry	Historical Landmark	Originally built as the Palace of Fine Arts for the World's Columbian Exposition of 1893, this structure later became the first home of the Field Museum of Natural History. After the museum moved out, the plaster-clad building was reconstructed (1929-33) in stone for the Museum of Science and Industry. Although its exterior is an exact copy of the original Beaux-Arts style Classical Revival design, its interior was remodeled in the Art Moderne style, under the direction of architect Alfred Shaw.	5700 S Lake Shore Drive 60637

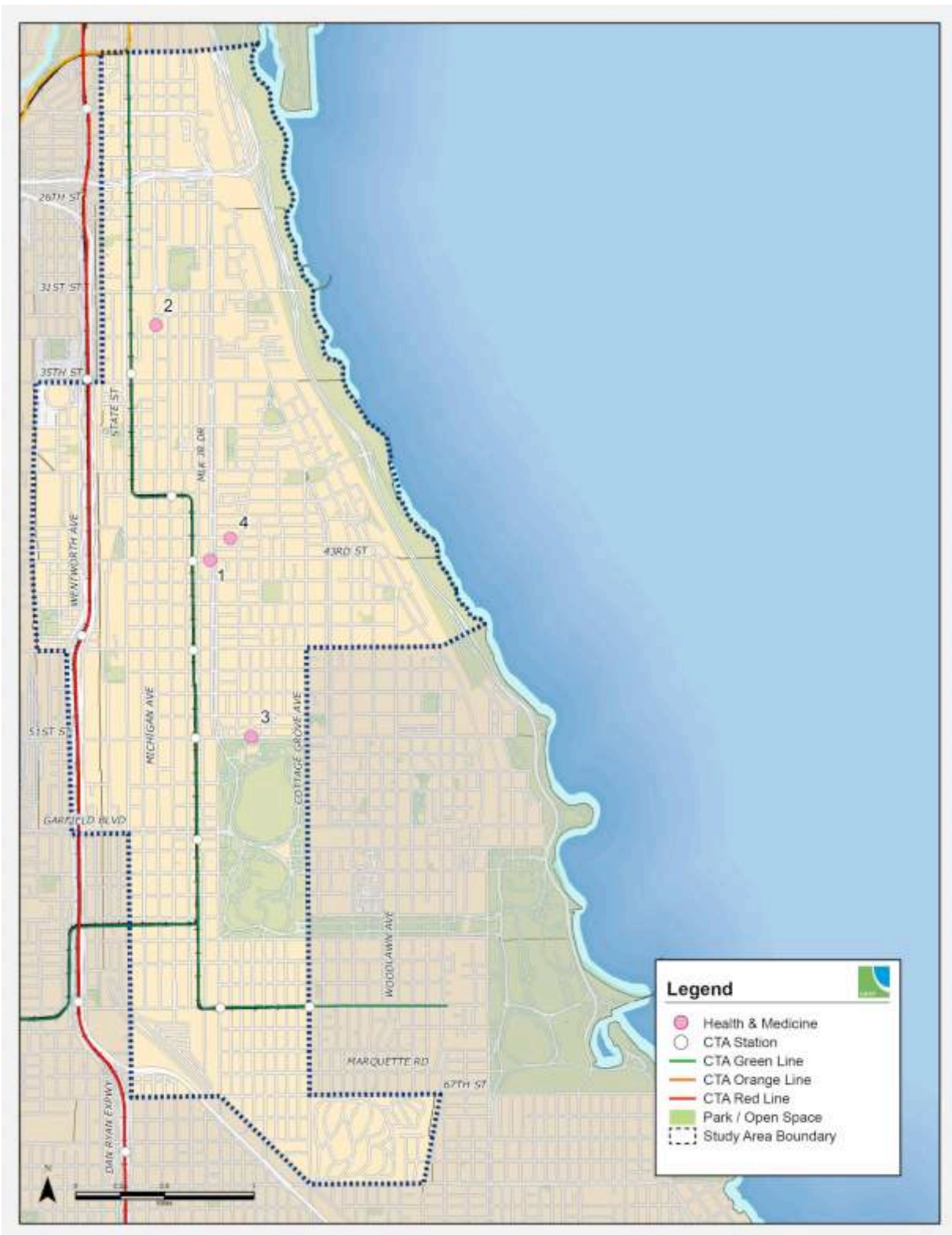




5	Schulze Baking Company Plant	Historical Landmark	Schulze Baking Company Plant is a factory building located on the South Side of Chicago, Illinois, United States. It is located at 40 East Garfield Boulevard (also described as 55th Street and Wabash Avenue) in the Washington Park community area in Cook County. Built in 1914, the building was listed on the National Register of Historic landmarks, buildings, or sites on November 12, 1982. Originally built for the Schulze Baking Company, it was once the home of the Butternut Bread Company, but is currently vacant.	40 E. Garfield Boulevard 60615
6	South Works (Steel)	Business	By 1920, more than 4,000 African-Americans worked in the steel industry, making it the second largest after meatpacking. Dirty and dangerous work with White-controlled unions barring Blacks from joining until the 1940s, more than 20 years after meatpacking unions had allowed Black to join.	8500 S. Green Bay Avenue 60617
7	The Forum	Cultural Venue	The Forum was a multipurpose gathering place built in 1899. The South Side Master Plumber's Ball of 1913 was held there, and drew 250 couples who danced to an orchestra. The Communist Party held meetings there in the 1920s and 1930s, often discussing labor issues. The first unionized black workers at the Union Stockyards met there. The Forum also held the 45th national convention of the African-American lodges of the Elks in 1944. The organization spoke out against racism, Jim Crow and intolerance. The building is currently vacant.	320 E. 43rd Street 60653
8	Union Stockyards (Gate)	Historical Landmark	This gate is the entrance to the famous Union Stock Yards in Chicago. The gate was designed by John Wellborn Root of Burnham and Root around 1875. The work was commissioned by the superintendent of the yards at the time, John B. Sherman. The limestone gate still stands as one of the few reminders of Chicago's past dominance in the meat packing industry.	4150 S. Peoria Street 60609



Figure 6. Health and Medicine Heritage Assets

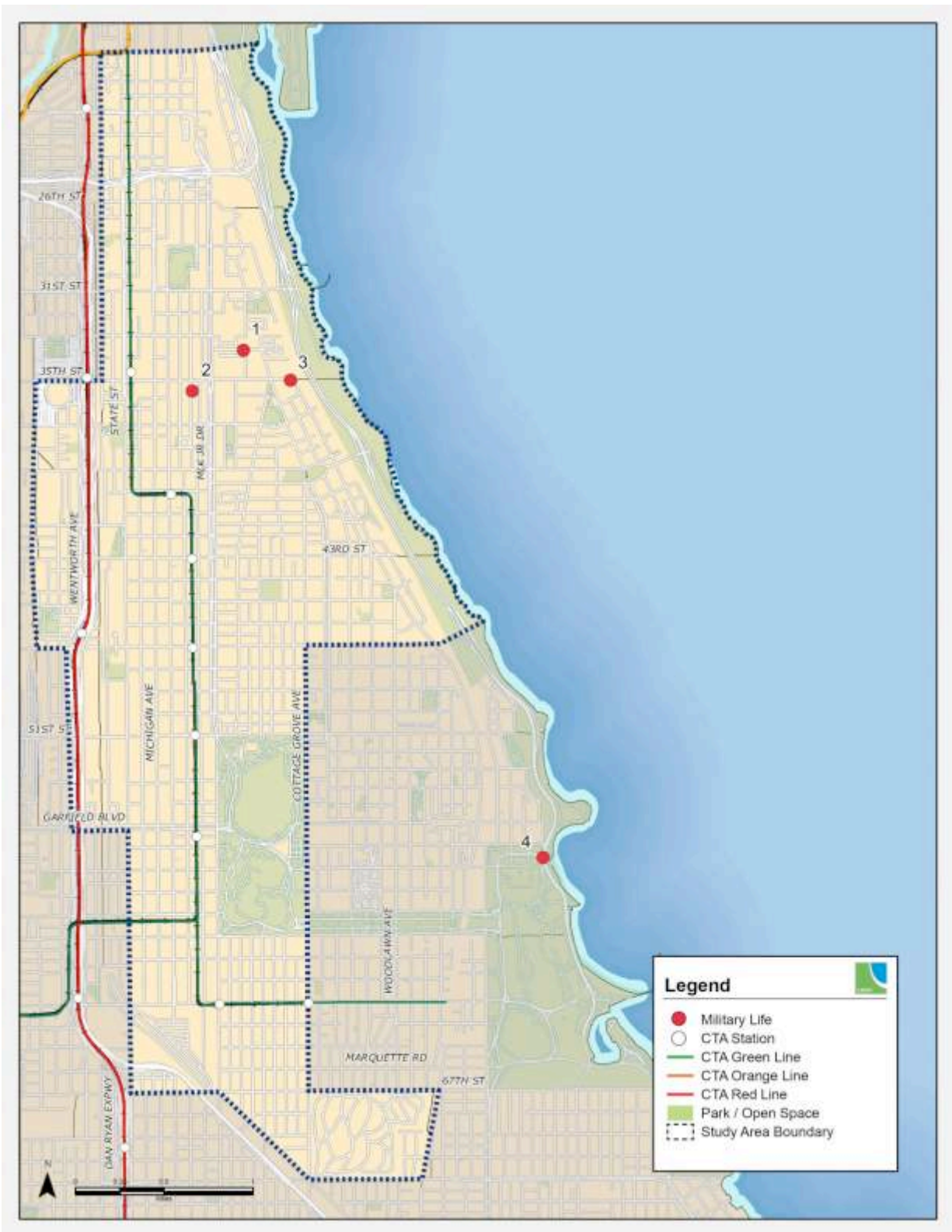


**Table 4. Health and Medicine Heritage Assets**

<b>MAP ID#</b>	<b>Asset</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Address</b>
1	Dr. T. K. Lawless	Person	Lawless was a noted, African American dermatologist, and also the co-founder of Service Federal Savings.	4300 S. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive 60653
2	Illinois College of Optometry	School	Established in 1872, the Illinois College of Optometry is the country's first and largest educational facility dedicated to training optometrists.	3241 S. Michigan Avenue 60616
3	Provident Hospital	Hospital	Originally located at 29th Street and Dearborn Avenue, Provident was the first non-segregated hospital in the United States, providing medical care for Bronzeville residents, mainly African Americans. The hospital also trained Black doctors and nurses, who were generally denied access to white institutions. Provident was the site of one of the first open-heart surgeries, performed by Dr. Daniel Hale Williams in 1893.	550 E. 51st Street 60615
4	Williams, Dr. Daniel Hale House	Historical Landmark	The home of Dr. Daniel Hale Williams. See Medicine #3 for more on Dr. Daniel Hale Williams.	445 E. 42nd Street 60653



Figure 7. Military Life Heritage Assets





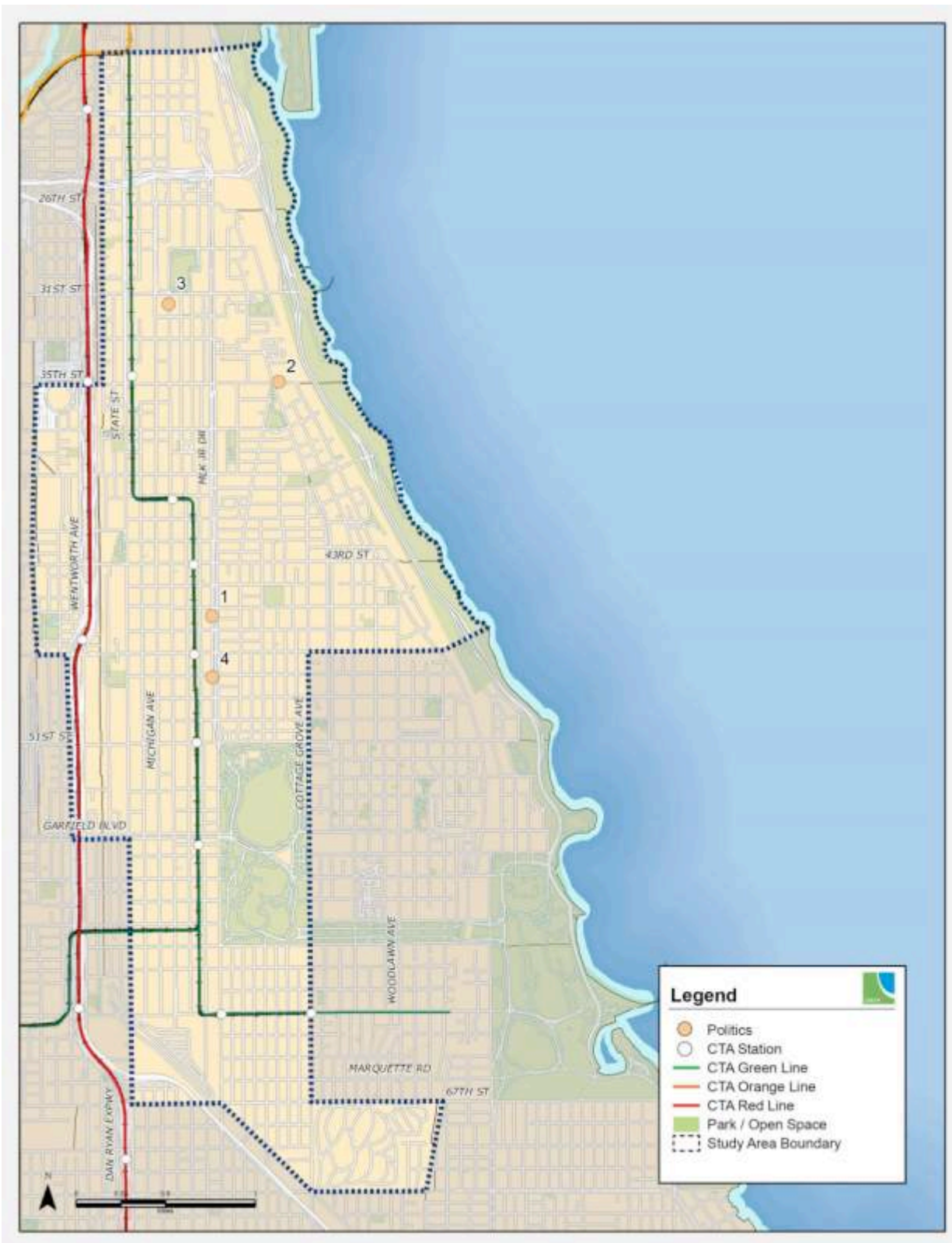
**Table 5. Military Life Heritage Assets**

MAP ID#	Asset	Category	Description	Address
1	Camp Douglas	Historical Landmark	Camp Douglas was a Union Army prisoner-of-war camp for Confederate soldiers taken prisoner during the American Civil War. It was also a training and detention camp for Union soldiers. The camp takes its name from Illinois Senator Stephen Douglas, who had donated land adjacent to the site for the original University of Chicago. In the aftermath of the war, Camp Douglas eventually came to be noted for its poor conditions and death rate of between seventeen and twenty-three percent.	515 E. 33rd Place 60616
2	Chicago Military Academy Bronzeville (Eighth Regiment Armory)	Historical Landmark	The "Fighting 8th" was an African-American volunteer regiment organized in 1898. It was later established as an infantry division of the Illinois National Guard. The Giles Avenue facility was the first armory in the United States built for an African-American military regiment. The "Fighting 8th" traces its roots to the formation of the volunteer Hannibal Guard militia in 1871. It later became a division of the Illinois National Guard and during World War I was incorporated into the 370th U.S. Infantry. After the armory closed in the early-1960s, it became the South Central Gymnasium. In 1999, following an extensive renovation, it was reopened as a public high school, the Chicago Military Academy Bronzeville. It is one of nine structures in the Black Metropolis-Bronzeville Historic District.	3519 S. Giles Avenue 60653
3	St. Joseph Carondelet Child Care Center (Soldier's Home)	Historical Landmark	Chicago's last surviving building with a direct association to the Civil War, Soldiers' Home was constructed at the edge of the Camp Douglas prison camp through the efforts of a women's group. During the war, it was a hospital for convalescent soldiers; following the war, it served as a home for disabled Union Army veterans. William W. Boyington, the architect of the Old Chicago Water Tower, designed the building's earliest sections in an Italianate style. The structure has had several additions since then, most of them surrounding a common light well. The building most recently housed a daycare center operated by the Sisters of St. Joseph Carondelet, a Roman Catholic congregation of women. It is the current location of Cardinal Meyer Center of the Archdiocese of Chicago.	739 E. 35th Street 60616
4	U-505 (IX C-U-BOAT)	Historical Landmark	Inside the Museum of Science and Industry stands the U-505, the only German submarine in the United States. This submarine was caught prowling the coast of West Africa in 1944, part of the German campaign to terrorize American and Allied shipping in the area. Depth charges from the USS Chatelain forced the U-boat out of hiding. It now serves educational purposes and stands as a national memorial to the 55,000 American sailors who gave their lives on the high seas in WWI and WWII.	5700 S. Lake Shore Drive 60637





Figure 8. Politics Heritage Assets

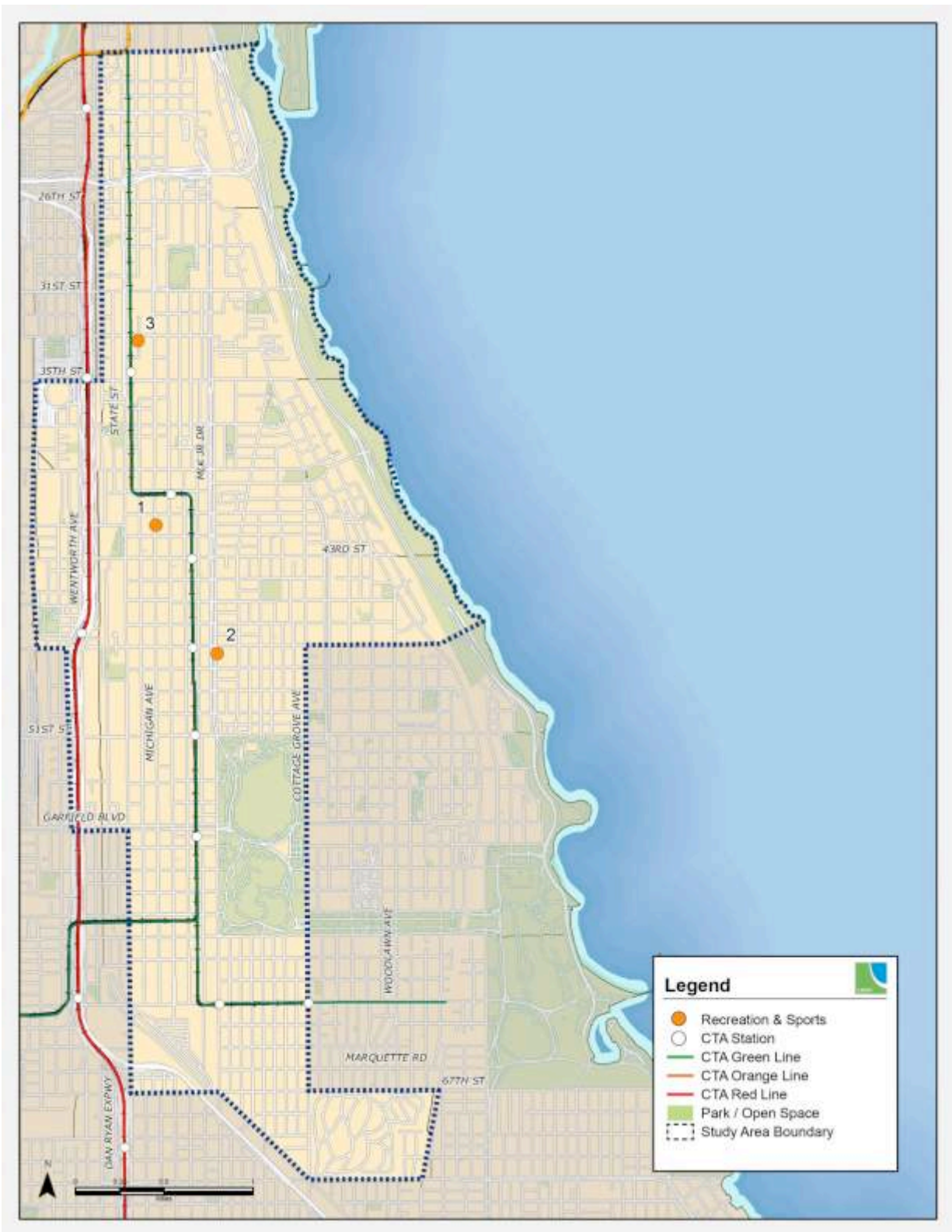


**Table 6. Politics Heritage Assets**

MAP ID#	Asset	Category	Description	Address
1	DePriest, Oscar Stanton House	Historical Landmark	This, eight-flat apartment building served as the home of Oscar Stanton De Priest From 1929 to 1951. De Priest was the first post-Reconstruction African American elected to the United States Congress, as well as Chicago's first black alderman. The building was designated a National Historic Landmark on May 15, 1975. It is not currently open to the public.	4536 S. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive 60653
1	Oscar DePriest	Person	De Priest was the first post-Reconstruction African American elected to the United States Congress, as well as Chicago's first black alderman.	4536 S Dr Martin L King Jr Dr 60653
2	Douglas Tomb State Memorial	Historical Landmark	This scenic park on 35th Street is the burial site of distinguished statesman Stephen Arnold Douglas (1813-1861). Construction of the 96-foot-tall granite structure was begun in 1866 and completed in 1881. Three circular bases are topped by a 20-foot diameter octagonal mausoleum. Inside, a Vermont marble sarcophagus holds Douglas' remains, surmounted by a marble bust of the Senator. At the four main corners of the mausoleum, pedestals hold large bronze allegorical figures portraying "Illinois," "History," "Justice," and "Eloquence." Above the main base of the column are four bronze bas reliefs representing stages in "the advance of American civilization." Atop the 46-foot column is a nine-foot bronze statue of Douglas gazing over Lake Michigan. The grounds surrounding the Tomb are landscaped with numerous trees and flower beds.	636 E. 35th Street 60616
3	Unity Hall (The Lakeside Landmark Club)	Historical Landmark	Originally built as the Lakeside Club, a Jewish social organization, this structure was renamed in 1917 when it became the headquarters of the Peoples Movement Club, a political organization headed by Oscar Stanton DePriest (1871-1951), the first African-American elected to the City Council and the first northern black elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. The building is a rare surviving 19th-century clubhouse structure, and is an excellent example of the type of architecture found in the community in the 1880's. Since the 1950's, it has been occupied by religious institutions. It is one of nine structures in the Black Metropolis-Bronzeville Historic District.	3140 S. Indiana Avenue 60616
4	William Dawson	Person	Attaway was an African-American novelist, short story writer, essayist, songwriter, playwright, and screenwriter. See Arts and Culture #59 for further description.	4806 S Dr Martin L King Jr Dr 60615



**Figure 9. Recreation and Professional Sports**



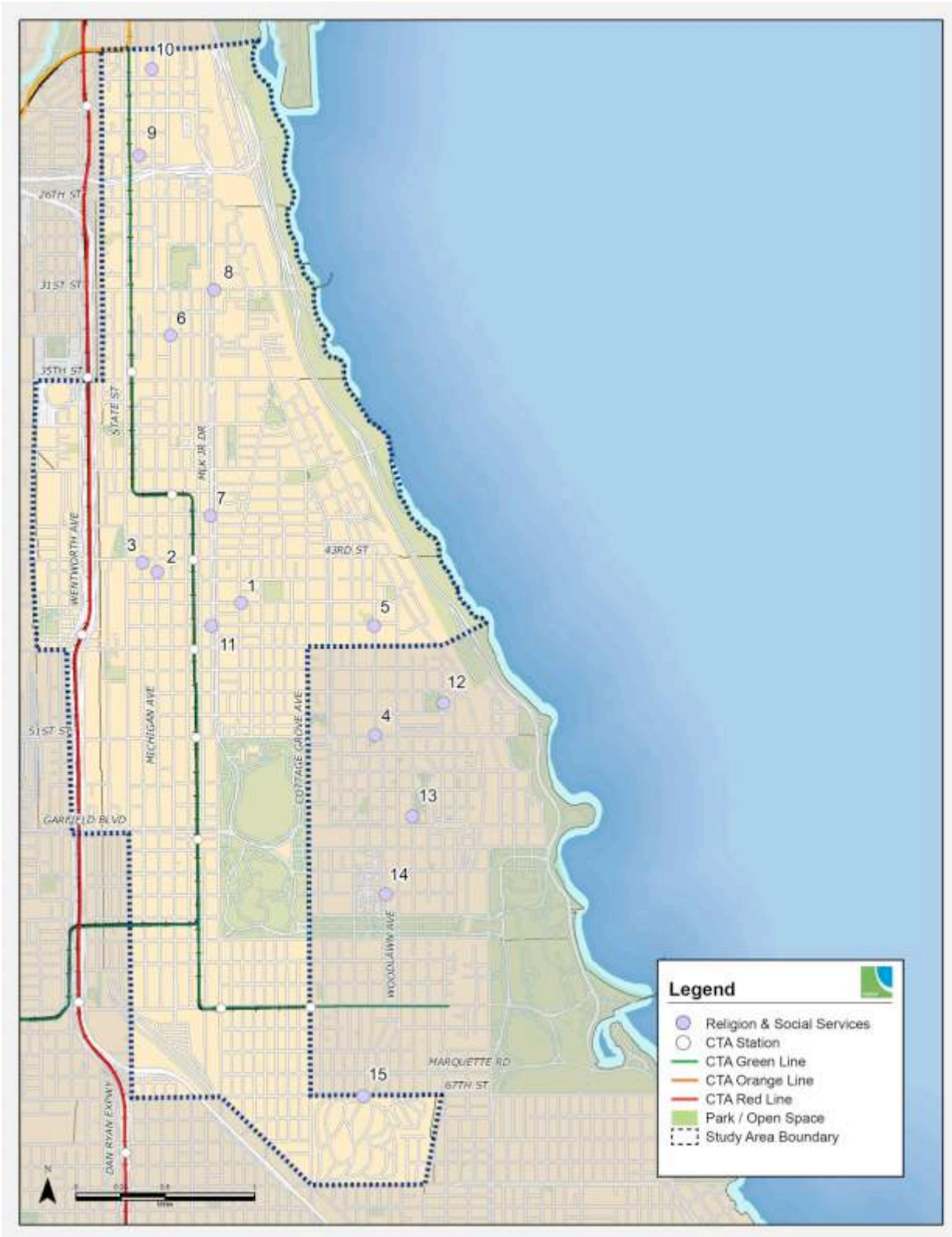
**Table 7. Recreation and Professional Sports Heritage Assets**

<b>MAP ID#</b>	<b>Asset</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Address</b>
1	Andrew "Rube" Foster	Person	Foster was an ace pitcher who played for the Leland Giants and the American Giants. He helped organize the Negro National Baseball League in 1920, and served as its president. Foster had a hand in almost all decisions relating to Negro baseball, and popularized the game among African Americans in the decades before integration of Major League Baseball.	4131 S. Michigan Avenue 60653
2	Harlem Globetrotters (Abe Saperstein)	Person	The Harlem Globetrotters actually hail from the south side of Chicago, where a team of local basketball players, mostly from Wendell Phillips High School, was organized for exhibition matches at the newly-opened Savoy Ballroom in 1927. The Savoy Big Five, as the team was called, would eventually begin touring throughout Illinois, changing their name to the "Globe Trotters." Abe Saperstein became involved with the team, eventually shepherding the team through tours of Illinois and Iowa. He began to call the team the "New York Harlem Globe Trotters", hoping to capitalize on Harlem's identity as the capital of African American culture. After four decades, the Globetrotters played their first "home" game in Harlem in 1968.	4733 S. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive 60615
3	Jack Johnson	Person	Johnson, nicknamed the Galveston Giant after the town of his birth, was the first African-American heavyweight-boxing champion of the world in 1910. nicknamed the Galveston Giant was an American boxer. Johnson started his professional career and made a home in Chicago. He also opened several businesses in Bronzeville. In his sporting prime, Johnson was considered the most famous African-American in the world.	3344 S. Wabash Avenue 60616





**Figure 10. Religion and Social Services Heritage Assets**





**Table 8. Religion and Social Services Heritage Assets**

MAP ID#	Asset	Category	Description	Address
1	Ebenezer Missionary Baptist (Isaiah Temple)	Historical Landmark	Built in 1899 as Isaiah Temple, one of Chicago's early Reform Judaism synagogues, this Classical Revival-style building is the last building designed by famed architect and engineer Dankmar Adler. It is long-admired for its distinctive form and fine acoustics and exhibits many characteristics associated with the work of Adler - who is best known for such works as the Auditorium Building and the Garrick Theater, both designed in partnership with Louis Sullivan. The building was purchased in 1921 by the congregation of the Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church. A decade later, the first modern gospel choir was formed at Ebenezer. Under the direction of musical pioneers Professor Theodore R. Frye, Roberta Martin, and Thomas Andrew Dorsey, himself known as the "Father of Gospel Music," the Church's groundbreaking gospel choir shaped American music history. The enthusiastic reception of gospel music at Ebenezer played a pivotal role establishing the careers of such legendary singers as Mahalia Jackson, Sallie Martin, Ruth Jones and Dinah Washington.	4501 S. Vincennes Avenue 60653
2	Eighth Church of Christ, Scientist	Historical Landmark	This church houses one of the country's oldest African-American Christian Science congregations. The building's temple front, broad dome, and interior plan are handsome Classical Revival-style features. Derived from ancient Roman architecture, this style was popularized by the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition.	4359 S. Michigan Avenue 60653
3	First Church of Deliverance	Historical Landmark	Designed by the city's first African-American architect, Walter T. Bailey, this unique Art Moderne-style structure reflects the innovative character of the congregation that built it. First Church of Deliverance, founded by the Rev. Clarence H. Cobbs, became the first American church to broadcast its services live on radio, popularizing the sounds of gospel music to a larger audience. Another architect added the twin towers to the terra cotta facade in 1946. It was designated a Chicago landmark in 1954.	4315 S. Wabash Avenue 60653
4	K.A.M Isaiah Israel Temple	Historical Landmark	This building, based on Byzantine-style design precedents, houses the oldest Jewish congregation in Chicago. The first Jewish settlers in the city organized Kehilath Anshe Maariv in 1847; Isaiah Israel had its roots in the city's second Jewish congregation, which was founded in 1852. In 1971, the two merged to form K.A.M. Isaiah Israel Temple.	1100 E. Hyde Park Boulevard 60615
5	Kenwood Evangelical Church	Historical Landmark	Kenwood Evangelical Church (also known as Kenwood United Church of Christ) is a historic church building at 4600-4608 South Greenwood Avenue in Chicago. The Romanesque building was constructed in 1887 and added to the National Register of Historic Historic Landmarks in 1991.	4608 S. Greenwood Avenue 60653



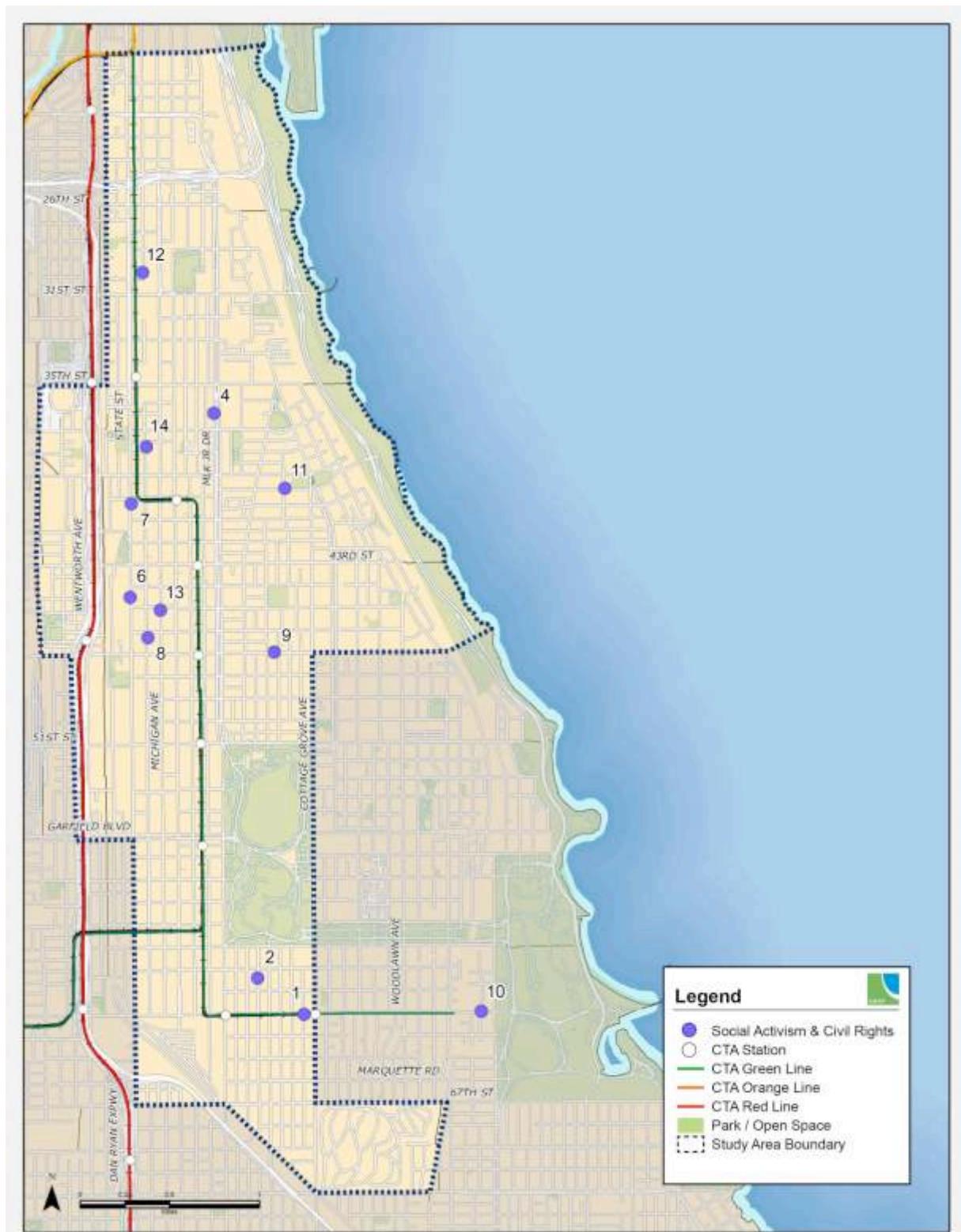
6	Mahalia Jackson	Person	Jackson is a world-renowned gospel artist. She released her first recording, "Move On Up A Little Higher," in 1934. She was a protégé, and eventual collaborator with Thomas A. Dorsey at Pilgrim Baptist Church. Mahalia Jackson also would play an active role in the Civil Rights Movement.	3301 S. Indiana Avenue 60616
6	Pilgrim Baptist Church (Kehilath Anshe Ma'ariv Synagogue)	Historical Landmark	The decorative and planning skills of architect Louis H. Sullivan, along with the engineering abilities of Dankmar Adler, are embodied in the strong masonry forms of this building, which is embellished with terra-cotta panels of intricate foliage designs. The dramatic interior of the church contains similar ornament. Built as Kehilath Anshe Ma' ariv synagogue, the building has housed the Pilgrim Baptist Church since 1922. During the 1930s, this congregation and its longtime music director, Thomas A. Dorsey, were instrumental in the development of gospel music. Among those who sang here were Mahalia Jackson, Sallie Martin, James Cleveland, and the Edwin Hawkins Singers.	3301 S. Indiana Avenue 60616
6	Thomas A. Dorsey	Person	Revered as "The Father of Gospel Music," Dorsey began his career as a blues musician, but after turning to religion, melded blues with jazz to create new style of music known as "gospel." He was the music director at Pilgrim Baptist Church. The style became enormously popular in African-American churches across the country.	3301 S. Indiana Avenue 60616
7	Metropolitan Community Church	Church	Metropolitan Community Church was established in 1920. At one time, it had over 9,000 members.	4106 S Dr Martin L King Jr Dr 60653
8	Olivet Baptist Church (formerly First Baptist Church)	Church	Founded in 1850 as the first African American Baptist church in Chicago, Olivet Baptist Church as occupied this structure since 1917. Congregants who were recent migrants were encouraged to support local businesses as a means to improve economic conditions for African-Americans living in Chicago. First Baptist Church originally constructed their building in 1875. During the 1920s, over 10,000 African-Americans belonged to Olivet Baptist, making it the largest Black Baptist congregation in America and the world at the time.	3101 S Dr Martin L King Jr Dr 60616
9	Quinn Chapel of the AME Church	Historical Landmark	This church houses Chicago's oldest African-American congregation, which traces its origins back to 1844, when seven individuals formed a nondenominational prayer group that met in the house of one of its members. In 1847, the group organized as a congregation of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. Named for Bishop William P. Quinn, the church played an important role in the city's abolitionist movement. After the Chicago Fire of 1871 destroyed the original church, the congregation met for many years in temporary locations. The congregation purchased the present site in 1890, and the current church is a reminder of the late-19th century character of the area.	2401 S. Wabash Avenue 60616



10	Second Presbyterian Church	Historical Landmark	When this Gothic Revival-style church was designed--by a prominent New York architect-- the surrounding streets, including Prairie Avenue, one block east, were lined with the homes of wealthy Chicagoans. Members of the congregation included the Glessners, the Pullmans, and the widow of President Abraham Lincoln. A fire in 1900 destroyed much of the church, but it was reconstructed under the supervision of architect Howard Van Doren Shaw. The interior decorations include stained-glass windows by Louis Comfort Tiffany.	1936 S. Michigan Avenue 60616
11	Sinai Temple	Church	Sinai Temple once housed the oldest Reform Congregation in the world. It now houses Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church, an African-American congregation.	4600 S Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive 60653
12	St. Paul & The Redeemer Episcopal Church	Church	The Church of St. Paul and the Redeemer was created in 1968 by the merger of two neighboring parishes in the Hyde Park and Kenwood neighborhoods of Chicago. St. Paul's was founded in 1859 in the new town of Kenwood, which by the turn of the century had been annexed by Chicago, together with Hyde Park. In 1889, St. Paul's established The Church of the Redeemer in nearby Hyde Park. In 1956, St. Paul's building was destroyed by a spectacular fire. The current church building was completed in 1958. In 1968, the Church of the Redeemer sold its property and moved six blocks north to join St. Paul's.	4951 S. Dorchester Avenue 60615
13	St. Thomas Roman Catholic Church & Convent	Historical Landmark	St. Thomas is the first Catholic Church to be built in the US in the modern style. It is the third Catholic church of this name to occupy the 55th Street and Kimbark Avenue site. The first constructed of wood in 1869. St. Thomas the Apostle Church and Convent was granted National Historic Landmark Status in 1979.	5472 S. Kimbark Avenue 60615
14	Swift Hall / Bond Chapel / Swift Theological Seminary	Historical Landmark	Swift Hall contains lecture halls, seminar rooms, faculty offices, a student-run coffee shop, a commons, and administrative offices - all associated with the Divinity School at the University of Chicago. The lecture hall was formerly the home of the Divinity Library, before its holdings were consolidated into the central research library, the Joseph Regenstein Library. Joseph Bond Chapel is the worship space for the Divinity School and various campus ministries at the University. Both Swift Hall and Bond Chapel, connected by a characteristic stone cloister, were designed by the architects Coolidge and Hodgdon at the end of the Gothic revival period in America. The Chapel was given by Mrs. Joseph Bond in memory of her husband, a former Trustee of the Baptist Theological Union, the predecessor institution of the Divinity School at University of Chicago.	1025 E. 58th Street 60637
15	Oak Woods Cemetery	Cemetery	Oak Woods Cemetery is the resting place of many prominent African American. It also holds the remains of between four and six thousand Confederate soldiers, prisoners who died at Camp Douglas. These bodies had originally been buried at City Cemetery but were exhumed and reburied together in a mass grave at Oak Woods. A monument known as the Confederate Mound was erected in their memory.	1035 E. 67th Street 60637



**Figure 11. Social Activism and Civil Rights Heritage Assets**



**Table 9. Social Activism and Civil Rights Heritage Assets**

MAP ID	Asset	Category	Description	Address
1	Bessie Coleman (library named in her honor)	Person	Coleman was the first female pilot of African American descent, and the first person of African American descent to hold an international pilot license. In 1915, at the age of 23, she moved to Chicago, Illinois, where she lived with her brothers and she worked at the White Sox Barber Shop as a manicurist. She was intrigued by stories from pilots returning home from World War I about flying during the war. However, her ambition to fly was hindered by the fact that no flight school in America would grant her admission. With financial backing from Robert S. Abbott and Jesse Binga, she was able to get training abroad. She became a media sensation when she returned to the United States, performing in airshows and exhibitions throughout the country. One such performance was held at Chicago's Checkerboard Airdrome (now Chicago Midway Airport).	731 E. 63rd Street 60637
2	Carl Hansberry House, Hansberry v. Lee Supreme Court Decision	Historical Landmark (pending)	Hansberry was a real estate broker, inventor and political activist. He was also the father of award-winning playwright Lorraine Hansberry and the great-grandfather of actress Taye Hansberry. When his youngest child was eight, Hansberry bought a house in the Washington Park subdivision of Chicago that was restricted to whites. Along with intense local resistance, the Kenwood Improvement Association filed a mandatory injunction for the Hansberry family to vacate their home. The order was granted by a Circuit Court judge and upheld on appeal by the Illinois Supreme Court. Hansberry challenged the ruling, which led to the landmark U. S. Supreme Court case Hansberry v. Lee (1940). In a unanimous opinion rendered November 12, 1940, the court rejected the specific restrictive covenant impacting the Hansberry family, although they failed to rule on the constitutionality of restrictive residential covenants in general. Hansberry moved his family to Mexico where he died in 1946. He is buried at the Burr Oak Cemetery. The family's experience with racial segregation would serve as the inspiration for his daughter Lorraine Hansberry's award-winning play, <i>A Raisin in the Sun</i>	6140 S. Rhodes Avenue 60637
3	Earl B. Dickerson	Person	Earl B. Dickerson was the first Black graduate from the University of Chicago Law School. A prominent African American attorney, community activist and business executive who successfully argued before the U. S. Supreme Court in <i>Hansberry v. Lee</i> .	1319 S. State Street 60605





4	Ferdinand L. Barnett	Person	Barnett was among a group of black leaders that emerged in Chicago at the close of the 19th century. Barnett, an attorney, established Chicago's first black newspaper, the <i>Conservator</i> , and used the outlet to advocate for black solidarity and militancy. Barnett married Ida B. Wells, a southern activist and investigative journalist whose pioneering work documenting lynching led to a national campaign against the practice, in 1895. She moved to Chicago and married Barnett in 1895. Wells became an important figure in movements for voting rights and social services for Chicago's black residents. She would also play a key role in the 1900 conference that established the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). From 1919-1930, Barnett and Wells made their home at 3624 S. Grand Boulevard, as the current Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive was then called, in the Douglas community.	3624 S Dr Martin L King Jr Dr 60653
4	Wells-Barnett, Ida B. House	Historical Landmark	From 1919 to 1930, this was the home of journalist and civil-rights activist Ida Bell Wells and her lawyer-journalist husband, Ferdinand Lee Barnett. Wells' outspoken criticism--in her weekly newspaper columns--of lynching and mob violence stirred the nation, and brought international attention to racially motivated brutality. This residence, incorporates elements of the Romanesque Revival and Queen Anne styles of architecture.	3624 S Dr Martin L King Jr Dr 60653
5	National Public Housing Museum	Museum	In 2006, a cross-section of Chicagoans came together to preserve and transform the only remaining building of the historic Jane Addams Homes on the Near West Side. The three-story brick building at 1322-24 West Taylor opened in 1938 as the first federal government housing project in Chicago. It housed hundreds of families over six decades, and has sat vacant since 2002. When it opens in 2013, the museum will be the first cultural institution in the United States dedicated to interpreting the American experience in public housing.	1322 W. Taylor Street 60607
6	Robert Taylor Homes	Housing	The Robert Taylor Homes was a Chicago Housing Authority (CHA) public housing project located in the Bronzeville neighborhood on the South Side of Chicago, on State Street between Pershing Road (39th Street) and 54th Street alongside the Dan Ryan Expressway.	4448 S. State Street 60609
7	Roberts Temple Church of God in Christ	Historical Landmark	Roberts Temple was the site of Emmitt Till's funeral and visitation in 1955. Till's death, pictures from the open-casket visitation, and reports of tens of thousands who came to pay their respects galvanized public opinion in support of the civil-rights movement. Roberts Temple was the first Church of God in Christ church established in Chicago and is considered the "Mother Church" in Northern Illinois for this denomination. It was established in 1916 by Elder William Roberts and occupied existing buildings at 3033 S. State St., 31st and LaSalle, and 37th and Federal before starting the construction of its own building at the present location in 1922. Till's mother requested that the church be used for the funeral and visitation	4021 S. State Street 60609



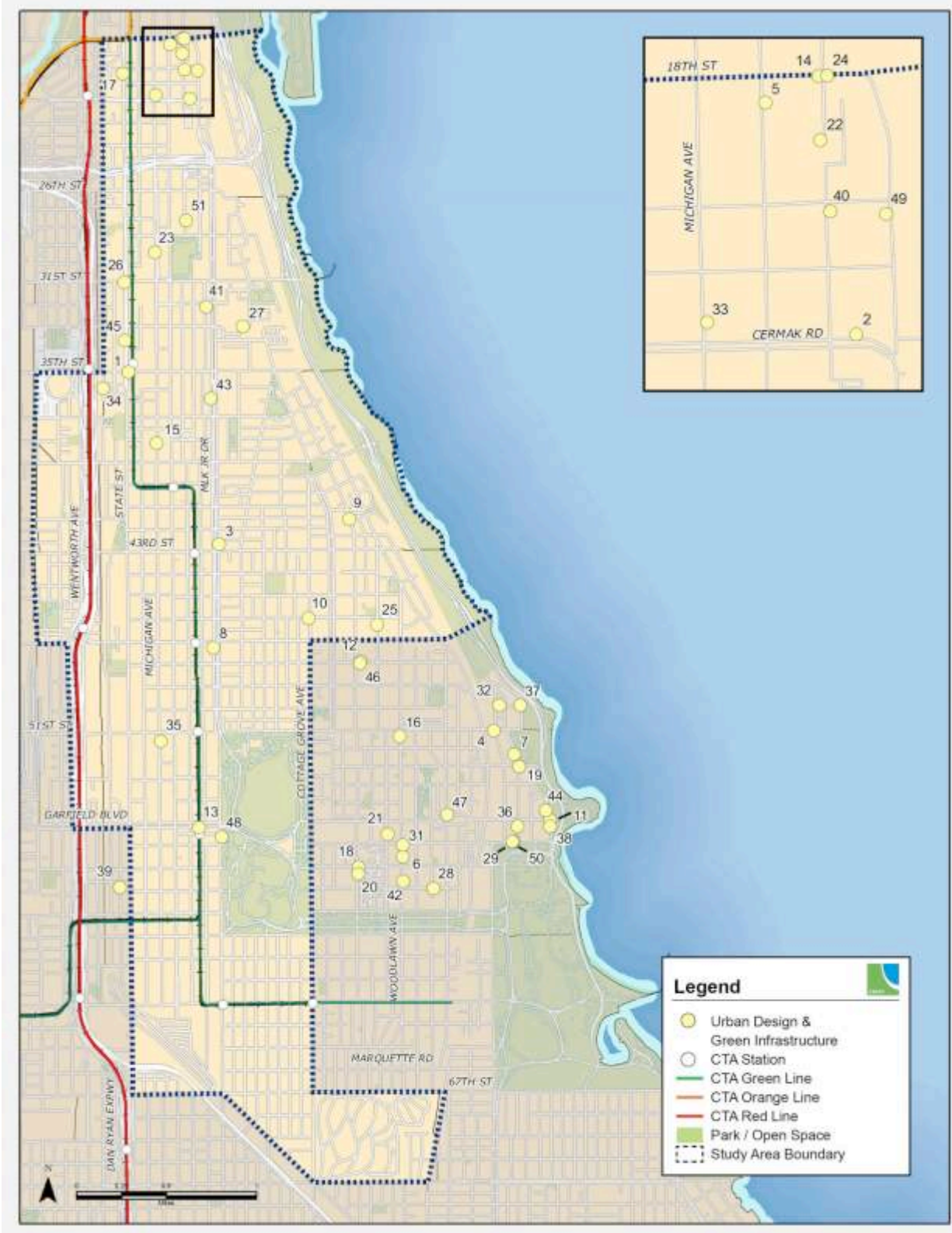
			after a smaller visitation at a local funeral home had attracted over 5,000 mourners.	
8	Rosenwald Apartment Building	Historical Landmark	This grouping of five-story structures was built in 1929 as low-cost housing, with the financial assistance of Julius Rosenwald, president of Sears Roebuck & Co. Although the complex was rehabilitated in the 1980s, it has been vacant for several years. The complex was listed on the National Trust's "Eleven Most Endangered" list in 2003. Although it is listed on the National Register of Historic landmarks, buildings, or sites, it is not protected as a local landmark. The singer Nat "King" Cole lived there, as did the poet Gwendolyn Brooks and the music producer Quincy Jones. In July of 2012, Chicago's Community Development Commission is scheduled to consider a developer's request to use up to \$25 million in TIF funding as part of a \$110 million renovation of the complex.	4625 S. Wabash Avenue 60653
9	Sims Corner "Wall of Respect"		A community mural covers one wall of this long-serving barber shop on 47th Street. The "Wall of Respect" honors African Americans of distinction, both locally and globally.	618 E. 47th Street 60653
10	The Woodlawn Organization	Resource	In 1960, South Side residents, local clergy, and businessmen formed what would become The Woodlawn Organization (T.W.O). T.W.O was heavily influenced by the theories and tactics of radical community organizer Saul Alinsky. The group aggressively confronted neighborhood issues including substandard, segregated housing; bad business practices; high unemployment; community health concerns; inadequate city services; and other persistent social problems.	1516 E. 63rd Street 60637
11	Abraham Lincoln Center	Historical Landmark	The building is now part of Northeastern Illinois. It was formerly a Unitarian Church and Settlement House. Lincoln Center, a social service agency that also occupied the building for a time, moved to 38th and Cottage Grove Avenue.	700 E. Oakwood Boulevard 60653
12	Chicago Urban League	Resource	Established in 1916, the League helped thousands of Blacks during the Great Migration through social services. Today it continues to work for economic, educational and social progress for African Americans and promotes strong, sustainable communities through advocacy, collaboration and innovation.	3032 S. Wabash Avenue 60616
13	Chicago Urban League	Resource	Established in 1916, the League helped thousands of Blacks during the Great Migration through social services. Today it continues to work for economic, educational and social progress for African Americans and promotes strong, sustainable communities through advocacy, collaboration and innovation.	4510 S. Michigan Avenue 60653



14	Wabash Avenue YMCA	Historical Landmark	An important center of community life, this Young Men's Christian Association facility also provided housing and job training for new arrivals from the South during the "Great Migration" of African-Americans in the first decades of the 20th century. A notable aspect of the building's diverse history was the founding here, in 1915, of the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, one of the first groups devoted to African-American studies. The building was expanded to the south in 1945. It closed as a YMCA in the late 1970's. It is one of nine structures in the Black Metropolis-Bronzeville Historic District.	3763 S. Wabash Avenue 60653
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Figure 12. Urban Design



**Table 10. Urban Design and Green Infrastructure Heritage Assets**

MAP ID#	Asset	Category	Description	Address
1	35th Street Elevated Station	Transportation Facility	The Garfield Boulevard "L" Station, part of Chicago's original "Alley L," is one of the oldest intact elevated rail stations in the United States. The Alley L-so-called because it ran above the alley between State Street and Wabash Avenue-was originally built to service the City's South Side residents, but the line was quickly extended south to Jackson Park in order to provide direct access to the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition. The Garfield Boulevard Station was built as part of that expansion in 1892. The station and its steel overpass spanning Garfield Boulevard are a unique remaining part of the Alley L, now part of the Chicago Transit Authority's Green Line. While most of the elevated line ran above the alley and therefore required little architectural detail, the ornamental steel overpass here was designed to complement the landscaped boulevard below and serve as a gateway to the surrounding Washington Park community.	3501 S. State Street 60609
2	American Book Company	Historical Landmark	Topped with a visually-distinctive tower, the American Book Company Building is prominently sited on the city's Near South Side. The handsome five-story brick industrial building was built in 1912 as the Midwest offices, warehouse and distribution center of the American Book Company, a nationally-prominent New York textbook publisher. The American Book Company Building exemplifies the importance of the publishing industry to the economic history of Chicago. The building features finely-crafted, classically-influenced details in brick, limestone, and terra cotta. The interior includes a handsome Arts and Crafts style lobby. Its architect, Nelson Max Dunning, was a prolific Chicago architect during the 1920s, designing, among other buildings, a number of institutional buildings including the Lakeshore Athletic Club.	330 E. Cermak Road 60616
3	Belmonte Flats	Historical Landmark	On National Registry.	4257 S Dr Martin L King Jr Dr 60653
4	Chicago Beach Hotel	Historical Landmark	The Chicago Beach Hotel was located in the Indian Village neighborhood of the Kenwood community area of Chicago. It was one of many speculative hotels built to accommodate the Columbian Exposition of 1893. Many Chicagoans of high social standing became residents and members. The building had private access to the beach until 1915 when the city created an adjacent bathhouse. During World War II it was commandeered by the military and served as Gardiner General Hospital. After the war the building served as the 5th Army Headquarters. It was demolished following the war. Now, the	5100 S. Cornell Avenue 60615





			Regents Park apartments are located on the property.	
5	Clarke, Henry B. House	Historical Landmark	This is one of Chicago's oldest buildings and the best surviving example of the Greek Revival style, which was fashionable in the early 19th century. The original owner was Henry B. Clarke, a wealthy hardware dealer, who died in 1849; thereafter, the building became known as the "Widow Clarke's house." It was moved from its former location in the 4500-block of South Wabash, to its current site in 1977, where it is part of the Prairie Avenue District.	1827 S. Indiana Avenue 60616
6	Compton, Arthur Holly, House	Historical Landmark	From the late 1920s to 1945, this was the residence of Arthur H. Compton (1892-1962), the distinguished physicist who, while at the University of Chicago, discovered the "Compton Effect," proving that light has both a particle aspect and a wave aspect, for which he received the 1927 Nobel Prize in Physics.	5637 S. Woodlawn Avenue 60637
7	East Park Towers	Historical Landmark	As one of a series of hotel apartment buildings erected in the Hyde Park area between 1918 and 1929, the East Park Towers rises 10 stories and is an irregular U-shaped red-brick building with terra cotta trim. The pie-shaped lot on which this building is located dictated the use of angled corners on its two major wings. William P. Doerr designed the predominantly Georgian style building using applied classical columns, Palladian windows at the first level and terra cotta quoins along various vertical bays. Mission style influence is represented by the terra cotta trim on the parapet. Other features include a series of balconies running up the center bay of the south wing and a horizontal brick and terra cotta belt course at the top level. The 53rd Street facade is lined with several shops while the rest of the levels contain apartment units.	5236 S. Hyde Park Boulevard 60615
8	Elam, Melissa Ann, House	Historical Landmark	Elam House is a chateausque-style house built in 1903 by Henry L. Newhouse, and later purchased by Melissia Ann Elam. Ms. Elam, a daughter of Missouri slaves who moved to Chicago after Emancipation, recognized the need for housing and guidance for the many single, African American girls migrating to Chicago. She opened the Elam Home for Working Women and Girls in 1920, operating out of a house on Champlain before moving to a larger space on King Drive. Between the 1930s and the 1950s, Elam Home often housed over 30 women and girls at a time, and served as a civic and cultural center for African American women. Elam House's last residents left in the 1970's, and the property is now used by Centers for New Horizons, a non-profit social service agency. It was designated a Chicago Landmark on March 21, 1979.	4726 S Dr Martin L King Jr Dr 60615



9	Eliel, Mathilde House	Historical Landmark	One of the few surviving examples of the small residential projects that made up the early work of Dankmar Adler and Louis H. Sullivan. The studied simplicity of the facade anticipates the famous firm's later, more well-known contributions to modern architecture, such as the Auditorium Building. This house was built as the residence of Mathilde Eliel, a schoolteacher who was a cousin of Adler's.	4122 S. Ellis Avenue 60653
10	Engine Company 45, Truck 15	Historical Landmark	Trimmed in terra cotta, this distinctive firehouse is ornamented with Classical-style details including shields decorated with various firefighting tools. It was built during an important period of growth for Chicago that resulted in the construction of some of the City's most ornate firehouses. Through their history and architecture historic Chicago firehouses like this one represent evolving ideas about the firehouse and fire protection in the City over time.	4600 S. Cottage Grove Avenue 60653
11	Flamingo-on-the-Lake Apartments	Historical Landmark	The Flamingo was originally built with 144 apartments and 16 hotel rooms in 1927, it has a large outdoor pool, and is 18 stories tall. It and the adjacent building, The Promontory Apartments, a condominium designed by Mies van der Rohe are the furthest east buildings in Hyde Park. The Flamingo Apartments are immediately opposite to the lakefront park which has direct access to Promontory Point and the Lake Shore Bike Path via the 55th Street pedestrian underpass under Lake Shore Drive.	5500 S. Shore Drive 60637
12	Flower, Eldredge M. House	Historical Landmark	Constructed after 1940.	1020 E. 48th Street 60615
13	Garfield Boulevard "L" Station (51st Street Station)	Historical Landmark	The Garfield Boulevard "L" Station, part of Chicago's original "Alley L," is one of the oldest intact elevated rail stations in the United States. The Alley L-so-called because it ran above the alley between State Street and Wabash Avenue-was originally built to service the City's South Side residents, but the line was quickly extended south to Jackson Park in order to provide direct access to the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition. The Garfield Boulevard Station was built as part of that expansion in 1892. The station and its steel overpass spanning Garfield Boulevard are a unique remaining part of the Alley L, now part of the Chicago Transit Authority's Green Line. While most of the elevated line ran above the alley and therefore required little architectural detail, the ornamental steel overpass here was designed to complement the landscaped boulevard below and serve as a gateway to the surrounding Washington Park community.	319 E. Garfield Boulevard 60637



14	Glessner, John J., House	Historical Landmark	A mature design by renowned architect Henry Hobson Richardson, Glessner House is famous for its site development, innovative floor plan, and rugged Romanesque Revival-style facade. A reminder of what Prairie Avenue looked like when it was home to some of the city's finest mansions, the Glessner House is the only remaining Chicago building by this Boston-based architect. The building was designed for John J. Glessner, an executive with the International Harvester Company. It now contains a house museum, which is part of the Prairie Avenue District.	1800 S. Prairie Avenue 60616
15	Griffiths, John W. Mansion	Historical Landmark	The Griffiths-Burroughs House has significance for both its architecture and its history. It remains as a surviving grandly-scaled mansion along South Michigan Avenue and exemplifies the avenue's 19th-century development as one of Chicago's premier residential streets. The house was designed by noted Chicago architect Solon S. Beman, the architect of the planned company town of Pullman, in the Chateausque architectural style, which was popular for high style mansions during the last quarter of the 19th century. The house was constructed as the residence of building contractor John W. Griffiths. After Griffiths's death in 1937, and with the demographic changes that had seen the surrounding Douglas neighborhood become largely African-American, the house acquired new social and institutional uses. It first housed the Quincy Club, a social club for Black railroad workers and their families. Then, in 1961, the house became the first home of the DuSable Museum of African-American History, founded by husband-and-wife Charles and Dr. Margaret T. Burroughs and originally called the Ebony Museum of Negro History. The DuSable Museum occupied the building for its first 12 years until 1973, when it moved into the former South Park Commission headquarters in Washington Park.	3806 S. Michigan Avenue 60653
16	Heller, Isadore H., House	Historical Landmark	A significant turning point in the work of famed architect Frank Lloyd Wright, this design helped introduce a new aesthetic that was to culminate in the now-famous Prairie School style. Here, Wright abandons the more picturesque and traditional styles of the day, substituting his own strongly geometric style along with the decorative richness of his mentor and former employer, Louis Sullivan. The decorative frieze was executed by sculptor Richard Bock. This building was designed for Isidore H. Heller, a meatpacker.	5132 S. Woodlawn Avenue 60615



17	Hilliard, Raymond M. Center Historic District	Historical Landmark	The Raymond Hilliard Homes (also called Center) was a Chicago Housing Authority complex located on the near south side of Chicago, containing two 16-stories round towers for elderly housing and two 18-story curved towers for low-income family housing. Supporting 756 dwelling units, the complex included lawns, playgrounds, and an open air theater. It has since been renovated by the private sector and converted to mixed-income housing, still with a significant lower income population. It is also now listed on the National Register of Historic Places since 1997, recognized for exceptional design. Hilliard's architect was Bertrand Goldberg, also designer of the Marina City on the north bank of the Chicago River. He designed the Hilliard buildings to be supported by their exteriors. This left interior areas for common space, an intentional design meant to foster community among public housing residents.	2030 S. State Street 60616
18	Hitchcock, Charles Hall	Historical Landmark	Charles Hitchcock Hall, built in 1901, is one of the oldest dormitories associated with the University of Chicago. It is built in a Collegiate Gothic style, like neighboring Snell Hall and most of the University of Chicago's campus, but has many Prairie School elements, such as stone corn husks instead of gargoyles and flat-roofed instead of gabled dormers.	1009 E. 57th Street 60637
19	Hotel Del Prado	Historical Landmark	The Hotel del Prado, erected in 1918, shows a transition from Beaux Arts to early Art Deco with terra cotta Native American head dresses decorating the top of the 10-story building. Like many hotels, the Hotel del Prado was created with an H-plan to maximize window space in its 198 apartments. Oddly enough, the main entrance faces South Hyde Park instead of the lakefront. The arcaded base, originally holding retail establishments, features large Palladian windows. Since 1918, two of the windows have been filled with glass block and most of the doors have been changed, but the remainder of the building remains relatively unchanged.	5307 S. Hyde Park Boulevard 60615
20	Jones, George Herbert Laboratory RM 405	Historical Landmark	The George Herbert Jones Laboratory is a facility at the University of Chicago, built in 1928-1929 as an instructional space for the university's staff of research chemists and graduate students in chemistry. As part of the U.S. War Department's Manhattan Project, University of Chicago chemists working under Dr. Glenn T. Seaborg began to study the newly manufactured radioactive element, plutonium. Room 405 was the site where, for the first time, a trace quantity of this new element was isolated and measured in September 1942. This procedure enabled chemists to determine the new element's atomic weight. Room 405 of the building was named a National Historic Landmark in May 1967.	5747 S. Ellis Avenue 60637



21	Keck-Gottschalk-Keck Apartments	Historical Landmark	Designed as a residence for architects William and George Fred Keck and professor Louis Gottschalk, this three-flat is one of the city's earliest examples of modern architecture that was associated with the International Style. Its living floors are Historic landmarks, buildings, or sites above a three-car garage, and the external blinds over the front windows demonstrate the architects' lifelong commitment to innovation, particularly in the field of solar design.	5551 S. University Avenue 60637
22	Keith, Elbridge G. House	Historical Landmark	Elbridge Keith was the president of the First National Bank, and one of three brothers to build impressive homes on Prairie Avenue. Keith lived in this house, built in 1870, until his death in 1905.	1900 S. Prairie Avenue 60616
23	Kent, Sidney A. House	Historical Landmark	The generous window openings and the sculptured qualities of masonry materials are a precursor to the firm's later designs, such as the Rookery and Monadnock buildings. This residence, one of the few remaining mansions on this portion of South Michigan Avenue, was built for Sidney A. Kent, a founder of the Chicago Union Stock Yard Company. The building's second owner was John "Bet A Million" Gates, who was as well known for his gambling exploits as for his business skills in the barbed wire industry.	2944 S. Michigan Avenue 60616
24	Kimball, William W. House (Beman, Solon House)	Historical Landmark	This imposing Chateausque-style home with elaborate stone-trim and mansard roof was built for the owner of Kimball Piano & Organ Company. It now serves as the office of the U.S. Soccer Federation.	1801 S. Prairie Avenue 60616
25	Kimberly Brown's House	Housing	On National Registry.	4630 S. Greenwood Avenue 60653
26	Knights of Pythias Building	Historical Landmark	Walter T. Bailey was the architect of this building designed to be a regional headquarters for the Knights of Pythias, a fraternal organization.	3102 S. State Street 60616
27	Lake Meadows	Housing	Lake Meadows was borne upon the Modernist philosophy of "towers in the park." Here, Skidmore, Owings, & Merrill, was the design firm, and architect Ambrose Madison Richardson the principal. They constructed a number of high-rise, residential towers on a plot of land near Chicago's lakefront. The towers are still occupied, although plans exist for the redevelopment Lake Meadows.	500 E. 33rd Street 60616
28	Lillie, Frank R., House	Historical Landmark	From 1904 until his death, this was the home of Frank R. Lillie (1870-1947), the distinguished University of Chicago embryologist, who served as director of Woods Hole Marine Biological Laboratory and president of the National Academy of Sciences.	5801 S. Kenwood Avenue 60637
29	Mayfair Apartments	Historical Landmark	Mayfair Apartments is conveniently located within walking distance of the Museum of Science & Industry, the University of Chicago and the lakefront. The property is now managed by TLC, Incorporated.	1650 E. 56th Street 60637





30	McClurg Building	Historical Landmark	The building was built in 1899 and designed by Chicago school architects Holabird & Roche. Added to the National Register of Historic Places on August 17, 1970.	218 S. Wabash Avenue 60604
31	Millikan, Robert A. House	Historical Landmark	From 1907 to 1921, this three story brick house was the residence of Robert A. Millikan (1868-1953), one of America's best-known 20th-century scientists. In 1923, Millikan received the Nobel Prize in Physics for his work in demonstrating the existence of electrons.	5605 S. Woodlawn Avenue 60637
32	Narragansett, The	Historical Landmark	The 22-story Narragansett was designed by the firm of Leichenko and Esser in 1930, and erected at a cost of \$1.5 million. Architect Charles Morgan designed the Art Deco detail gracing the building. This building is most famous for its sculpted elephants. Departing from traditional Art Deco design, each band of windows is separated by colorful (but identical) abstract patterns. The adjacent Powhattan building is virtually identical.	1640 E. 50th Street 60615
33	New Michigan Hotel (Lexington Hotel)	Historical Landmark	The Lexington Hotel was built in 1892 as a residential Hotel and designed by Clinton Warren, also the architect for Chicago's Congress Hotel. The 10 story Lexington Hotel was made of brick and Terra Cotta and once hosted President Benjamin Harrison, who addressed a crowd from the hotel's balcony. The hotel's claim to fame, however, was Alphonse "Scarface" Capone. He occupied the Lexington from 1928 -1932. Mr. Capone and his large entourage occupied the third, fourth and fifth floor,	2135 S. Michigan Avenue 60616
34	Park Boulevard		Park Boulevard is a mixed-income development built on the site of the former Stateway Gardens complex, one of CHA's largest developments. Stateway encompassed 1,644 units in eight gallery high rise buildings, which were demolished due to many years of neglect, high crime, poverty, and physical isolation.	3560 S Federal Street 60609
35	Pate-Comiskey House	Historical Landmark	This massive-looking, limestone-clad house was designed for Chicago lumberman Davey Pate by progressive architect George Maher. The house's design displays Maher's interest in combining aspects of both traditional and modern architecture through its symmetry, grandly scaled yet starkly simple facade, visually bold use of limestone, and unusual ornament. Charles Comiskey, long-time owner of the Chicago White Sox baseball team, later owned the house.	5131 S. Michigan Avenue 60615
36	Poinsetta Apartments	Historical Landmark	This is 12-story Spanish Revival style apartment building. It is known in the neighborhood for its ornate facade. The building is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, which notes that its terra-cotta ornamentation is among the best in Chicago.	5528 S. Hyde Park Boulevard 60637
37	Powhatan Apartments	Historical Landmark	The facade of this 22-story, luxury-apartment highrise reflects Eliel Saarinen's influential, streamlined design for the Tribune Tower competition of 1922. Terra-cotta ornamental panels feature scenes from American Indian culture, befitting a building that was named for a famous Algonquin Indian chief.	4950 S. Chicago Beach Drive 60615



38	Promontory Apartments	Historical Landmark	Promontory Apartments is a 22- story, 122- unit apartment building on Lake Michigan in the Hyde Park neighborhood. Promontory was designed by Ludwig Mies van der Rohe and built by Herbert Greenwald in 1949. Located on the lakefront, the building sweeping views of Lake Michigan and Promontory Point. The building features a modernist rectilinear structure with carefully proportioned interior spaces.	5530 S. Shore Drive 60637
39	Raber, John House	Historical Landmark	One of the City's few remaining pre-Fire of 1871 residences, this is a rare surviving example in the Englewood community of a large country estate. The Italianate-style brick residence, which is capped by a wooden cupola, was constructed by John Raber, a prominent area businessman, real-estate developer, and politician. The residence's original 6 acre grounds and gardens were so extensive that the house's initial address was on State Street (then South Plank Road), one block to the east.	5760 S. Lafayette Avenue 60621
40	Reid House	Historical Landmark	The AIA Guide to Chicago lists the construction of this house as 1894, however the City of Chicago records show 1888. Beers, Clay, and Dutton is listed as the architectural firm. This building is on the National Register of Historic Places.	2013 S. Prairie Avenue 60616
41	Robert W. Roloson Houses	Housing	Designed by Frank Lloyd Wright, these Tudor-style houses were built for Robert Roloson in 1894.	3213 S. Calumet Avenue 60616
42	Robie, Frederick, House	Historical Landmark	Of the more than 75 buildings that Frank Lloyd Wright designed in the Chicago area, none is more famous or influential than this residence, which was designed for Frederick C. Robie, a young manufacturer of bicycles. The affinity of its striking horizontal lines to the flat landscape of the Midwestern prairie came to be associated with an architectural style popularly known as the "Prairie School." The building's low, overhanging roof and the long wall around its base give a sense of privacy to the occupants, while the roof's sweeping horizontality makes the house seem longer and lower than it actually is. This design, which was a marked contrast to traditional houses of the period, signaled a turning point in modern residential architecture.	5757 S. Woodlawn Avenue 60637
43	Roche, Martin - Tait, John House (Tait-Elston House)	Historical Landmark	The Tait Elston House dates to 1888.	3614 S Dr Martin L King Jr Dr 60653



44	Shoreland Hotel	Historical Landmark	Host to luminaries like Amelia Earhart, Elvis Presley and visiting professional baseball teams, Hyde Park's 1,000-room Shoreland Hotel is an approved Chicago landmark. One of most well-preserved representations of the apartment-hotels that proliferated in Chicago during the 1910s and '20s, the 13-story building was the third largest hotel in the entire city at the time of its completion in 1926. The U-shaped building was designed for the Shoreland Hotel Company by Meyer Fridstein, architect of the Belden-Stratford Hotel in Lincoln Park and the landmark Congress Theater in Logan Square. Its Spanish Renaissance Revival-style exterior features a terra cotta base, a masonry mid-section, and an elaborately decorated, two-story top.	5450 S. Shore Drive 60615
45	SR Crown Hall	Historical Landmark	A defining structure of 20th-century modern architecture, this is one of the masterpieces of the world-renowned architect Ludwig Mies van der Rohe. Designed to house Illinois Institute of Technology's departments of architecture, planning, and design, the building's dramatic, structurally-expressive form resulted from the need to create an open interior space that could be flexibly adapted for changing needs and uses. Instead of interior columns, the roof is hung from exposed steel trusses bridging the depth of the building. It was named for S. R. Crown, a co-founder of the Material Service Corporation.	3360 S. State Street 60616
46	Stong, D.O. House	Historical Landmark	Constructed after 1940.	1019 E. 48th Street 60615
47	University Apartments	Historical Landmark	On National Registry.	1400 E. 55th Street 60615
48	Washington Park	Historical Landmark	Designed by Frederick Law Olmsted as part of the original South Park, Washington Park has a variety of attractions, such as the DuSable Museum, the bird and butterfly sanctuary, lagoons, a refectory and Lorado Taft's statue, The Fountain of Time.	5531 S Dr Martin L King Jr Dr 60637
49	Wheeler-Kohn House	Historical Landmark	This is one of the last survivors of the stately mansions built on the city's Near South Side prior to the Fire of 1871. Calumet Avenue and nearby Prairie Avenue were considered two of the city's most fashionable streets. One of the city's earliest architects, who also designed the Delaware Building, Groesbeck House, and Haskell-Barker buildings, designed this house for banker Calvin Wheeler in the Second Empire style. In the mid-1880s, in order to compete with newer mansions being constructed nearby, its second owner, clothier Joseph Kohn, updated the house. A two-story window bay was added to the front of the building, along with an elaborately detailed front-porch canopy.	2018 S. Calumet Avenue 60616



50	Windermere House, The	Historical Landmark	Originally one of Chicago's most luxurious 1920's apartment hotels, Windermere House was designed to be the most sophisticated and elegant residence of its day. Overlooking Jackson Park, it's ideally located for easy access and within walking distance from the University of Chicago, restaurants and shopping. MAC Property Management now manages the property.	1642 E. 56th Street 60637
51	Wood-Maxey-Boyd House	Historical Landmark	The Wood-Maxey-Boyd House, located in the Douglas community area, is a finely preserved Queen Anne-style mansion built for lumberman George E. Wood in 1885. Architect John C. Cochrane, who designed the All Saints Episcopal Church on N. Hermitage Avenue, a Chicago Landmark, and the Illinois State Capitol, designed it. The house was once part of "Lower Prairie Avenue," a section of the City's most prestigious 19th-century residential street between 26th and 30th Streets that was almost completely redeveloped under urban renewal efforts in the 1950s and 60s. The house's current owner, Dr. Alva Maxey-Boyd, bought the house with her husband, Charles Boyd, in 1948, and it was through their decades-long efforts that the house survives today.	2801 S. Prairie Avenue 60616



# Appendix 2: Civic Engagement & Public Involvement

## *Feasibility Study Public Engagement, Marketing, and Communication Strategy*

At the outset of this project, the Commission set forth a strategy to to promote public understanding of the study; maximize participation and contributions of interested and affected organizations and individuals; assess public support for designation; assess capacity and commitment of local entities/individuals to the program and protection of the National Heritage Area. Moving forward the Commission will continue to use this strategy as a guide to future public outreach and engagement activities.

1. Communications Collateral
  - a. Design a fact sheet with FAQ's about the project
  - b. Develop a calendar of public events where information can be distributed
  - c. Maintain a project website with more interactive tools for civic engagement
  - d. Develop a media promotion plan for the project including a public engagement plan for TV appearances, neighborhood newspaper briefings, radio interviews, etc.
2. Background Information
  - a. Update historic asset maps previously developed with CMAP
  - b. Identify, analyze, and map natural and cultural resources (assets) in the area
  - c. Interview key stakeholders to capture the history and cultural significance of the area - Gather historical, current and projected demographics as well as economic data for the study area
  - d. Economic Analysis: analyze economic trends in the study area to assess the potential economic impacts of the designation.
3. Assemble existing Resources
  - a. Bibliographies, discographies
  - b. Websites, on-line links
  - c. Curriculums, i.e.: Black Metropolis Teaching with Historic Places (NPS)
4. Stakeholder Identification
  - a. Communicate plans with Resource Collaborators: Chicago Landmarks Commission, NPS, Landmarks IL, Millennium Reserve, IL NHA's, Preservation Chicago, Chicago Park District, Chicago History, Field Museum, Openlands, Trust for Public Lands, National Park Service, Chicago Department Cultural Affairs, Choose Chicago, MPEA (September 2012)
  - b. Identify key stakeholders including local leaders, residents, and businesses





- c. Develop strategy for individual and organizational outreach, workshops and meetings
  - d. Identify key contacts in the community
    - i. Aldermen
    - ii. City Departments such as HED/Historic Preservation (HPres) and DCASE
    - iii. Quad Communities Development Corporation (QCDC)
    - iv. Bronzeville Alliance
    - v. Bronzeville Community Club House
    - vi. Bronzeville Area Residents and Commerce Council
    - vii. Others
5. Media Relations/Publicity Plan
- a. Develop key message points, determine and train spokespersons
  - b. Media Announcement of Feasibility Study and LTA Grant
  - c. Piggyback on Upcoming announcements,
  - d. Issue Media Release
  - e. Schedule Media Appearances and interviews with local media outlets
  - f. Publicize Website and other social media
  - g. Media Windows: Black History Month etc.
6. Community & Private Sector Conversation Timeline
- a. Community meetings, alderman's ward meetings, congressman's town hall meetings, and public forum to seek input from stakeholders
  - b. Identify strategies for increasing private sector support and opportunities to match federal investment. Reach out to potential sponsors in the private sector by conducting presentations to private firms and organizations.
    - i. Develop series of Coffee event
    - ii. Schedule presentation with Rotary Club, Central Committee, Civic Committee, ABLE, Chicago United
7. Ongoing Communication around National Heritage Area Themes
- a. Strengthen relationships, develop affiliate memberships with Institutional Partners and partnership programs
  - b. Black Metropolis Project DePaul
  - c. Drake Center, Roosevelt
  - d. Chicago Black History Forum
  - e. Local Historian Timuel Black & Dr. Christopher Reed
  - f. Woodson, Hall, and Harold Washington libraries
  - g. DuSable and Chicago History museums
  - h. Columbia College – Center for Black Music Research
  - i. Smithsonian Institution – National Museum of African-American History and Culture (John W. Franklin)



- j. Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture (New York, NY)
  - k. City of Chicago Historic Preservation Division
  - l. Black Metropolis Research Consortium
8. On-going and Annual Promotion Opportunities and Affiliate Associations
- a. The Great Migrations
  - b. Civil Rights
  - c. Politics
  - d. Music (Jazz, Blues, Gospel, etc.), Chicago Festivals
  - e. Sports (Negro League Baseball, Boxing, etc.)
  - f. Other (traditions, customs, beliefs, and folk life that characterize the study area)
  - g. National Register Landmarks
  - h. Local Landmark Districts (Black Metropolis, Motor Row/ Record Row etc.)
  - i. Chicago Black Renaissance Literary Movement
  - j. Individual Local Landmarks
  - k. Parks
  - l. Others
9. Financial Investment & Private Sector Partnerships that support key NHA components of Preservation , Conservation, Heritage Tourism, Education/ Interpretation
- a. Highlighted in on-line newsletter, social media
  - b. Identify potential future investments by the City or state that could qualify as federal match
  - c. Gospel Museum
  - d. Civil War Museum
  - e. Blacks in Wax
  - f. Bronzeville Cookin'
  - g. Hyatt Hotel Tower Illinois
  - h. 31st, 35th Street Bridge
  - i. Green Line/ Red Line Intermodal Stations
10. Special Events Marketing & Publicity: September 2012 – February 2013
- a. Announcement Governors Great Migration Centennial Commission
  - b. Book Event – Chicago's Black Renaissance
  - c. Celebrate Bronzeville as Cultural Neighborhood Hubs
  - d. In Motion Exhibit Installation (statewide)
  - e. Updated Tribute Markers of Distinction (Southside)
  - f. Bronzeville Obelisk
  - g. Congressional Legislative Milestones
  - h. Joint Session of NHA's at IL Governors Conference on Tourism



11. Evaluation of Public Support and Commitments: January – March 2013
  - a. Evaluate public support for the NHA designation and commitment to partnerships
12. Marketing the Final Feasibility Study: (March- June 2013)
  - a. Media desk side briefings
  - b. Distribution of hard copies
  - c. Mailing with cover letter to key stakeholders



## Appendix 3: Funding Resources for Coordinating Entity's Consideration

The PAC should continue to explore partnerships and funding opportunities, with an eye towards developing reasonable estimates and commitments from anticipated state and local contributions, as well as other private grants, donations and miscellaneous income. Moving forward, specific financial commitments should be identified. To assist in this process, included in this appendix is a table of possible funding federal, state, and philanthropic opportunities for the coordinating entity to explore. The Commission and Partnership have been very successful in applying and receiving foundation assistance to support heritage themes and educational programming.

Funding Organization (Grantor)	Grant	Grant/Grantor Description	Grant Size	Website or other contact information
Federal & State Assistance				
U.S. National Park Service – Heritage (Technical) Preservation Services	20% Federal Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit	Tax credit program for places on National Historic Register (building needs to be certified as a historic structure by the National Park Service, or located within historic district). Amount of the credit available under this program equals 20% of the qualifying expenses of the rehabilitation. Only available to properties that will be used for a business or other income-producing purpose, and a "substantial" amount must be spent rehabilitating the historic building. Rental housing IS eligible.	-	<a href="http://www.nps.gov/tax/tax-incentives/before-you-apply.htm">www.nps.gov/tax/tax-incentives/before-you-apply.htm</a>
Internal Revenue Service	10% Rehabilitation Tax Credit	For buildings that are not listed, but built before 1936. Also non-conforming buildings in historic districts. For income-producing commercial properties, NOT rental or owner-occupied residential. Construction costs eligible, acquisition costs are NOT.	-	Administered entirely by IRS: <a href="http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f3468.pdf">www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f3468.pdf</a>



<b>Funding Organization (Grantor)</b>	<b>Grant</b>	<b>Grant/Grantor Description</b>	<b>Grant Size</b>	<b>Website or other contact information</b>
National Trust for Historic Preservation	National Trust Preservation Fund	Works with nonprofit organizations and agencies to match grants for preservation planning, and works to provide emergency funds to individuals and groups who need them.	\$500 to \$5,000  (Local match may be necessary)	<a href="http://www.preservationnation.org">www.preservationnation.org</a>
National Trust for Historic Preservation	Partners in the Field Challenge Grant (an initiative of the National Trust Preservation Fund)	The main goal of the fund is to strengthen preservation efforts across the U.S. by increasing the presence of local and state organizations that provide field assistance and supplying the necessary money to sustain their efforts. Grants can only be obtained by members of National Trust Statewide and Local Partners.	(Local match may be necessary)	Partners in the Field Challenge Grant for Statewide and Local Partners
National Trust for Historic Preservation	Emergency/ Intervention Funding	Intervention funding from the National Trust is awarded in emergency situations when immediate and unanticipated work is needed to save a historic structure, such as when a fire or other natural disaster strikes. Funding is restricted to nonprofit organizations and public agencies. Available emergency funding is very limited.	Typically range from \$1,000 to \$5,000 (No local match necessary)	<a href="mailto:grants@savingplaces.org">grants@savingplaces.org</a> ;  <a href="http://www.preservationnation.org/resources/find-funding/special-funds">www.preservationnation.org/resources/find-funding/special-funds</a>
Internal Revenue Service	50% Disabled Tax Credit	Available for handicapped-accessibility improvements for small businesses. Improvement must meet current ADA standards. Rehabilitation projects do not have to be listed buildings/structures.	-	Administered entirely by IRS: <a href="http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f8826.pdf">www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f8826.pdf</a>
Illinois Historic Preservation Agency	Illinois Historic Preservation Tax Credit Program	The Illinois Historic Preservation Tax Credit Program provides a state income-tax credit equal to 25% of a project's qualified expenditures to owners of certified historic structures located within River Edge Redevelopment Zones (Aurora, East St. Louis, Elgin, & Rockford) who	-	<a href="http://www.illinoishistory.gov/ps/index.htm">www.illinoishistory.gov/ps/index.htm</a> ;  <a href="http://www.ildceo.net/dceo/Bureaus/Business_Development/Tax+Assist">www.ildceo.net/dceo/Bureaus/Business_Development/Tax+Assist</a>





<b>Funding Organization (Grantor)</b>	<b>Grant</b>	<b>Grant/Grantor Description</b>	<b>Grant Size</b>	<b>Website or other contact information</b>
		undertake certified rehabilitations. To be used in conjunction with 20% Federal Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit, i.e. properties that qualify for the federal program should qualify for state credits.		ance/HistoricPreservationPA.htm
Illinois Humanities Council	Community Grants Program	Accept proposals from nonprofit organizations that have stories to tell about Illinois, or use the humanities to enrich community life. Also accept proposals from organizations looking for technical assistance or general operating support. Encourage applications from organizations that bring humanities projects to new or historically neglected audiences or communities.	Up to \$5,000	www.prairie.org/grants
Landmarks Illinois	Preservation Heritage Fund Grants	Monetary assistance to preserve or protect significant structures or sites in the state of Illinois that are under threat of demolition, imminent deterioration, or are of such architectural importance that their preservation will benefit the community. Structures or sites on Landmarks Illinois' most recent "Endangered List" or the "Chicagoland Watch List" are presumed to be eligible structures. Non-profit applicants must own the eligible structure, or have legal control.	Range from \$500 to \$2,500	www.landmarks.org/heritage_fund_guidelines.htm
State of Illinois Department of Natural Resources	Illinois Youth Recreation Corps Grant Program	Grants to local governments and not-for-profit entities to provide wages to youth operating and instructing in recreational and conservation programs. Such programs include coordination and teaching of physical activities and learning activities directly related to natural resource conservation, management, or recreation.	-	www.dnr.state.il.us/ocd/gaoutnew.htm



<b>Funding Organization (Grantor)</b>	<b>Grant</b>	<b>Grant/Grantor Description</b>	<b>Grant Size</b>	<b>Website or other contact information</b>
State of Illinois Department of Natural Resources	Park and Recreational Facilities Construction Grant Program	Provide grants to eligible local governments for park- and recreation-unit construction projects. Includes acquisition, development, construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, improvements, architectural planning, and installation of capital facilities, i.e. structures and/or land for park and recreation purposes, open spaces, and natural areas.	-	<a href="http://www.dnr.state.il.us/ocd/gaoutnew.htm">www.dnr.state.il.us/ocd/gaoutnew.htm</a>
Illinois EPA	-	Grants, rebates, and technical assistance to help communities address stormwater, brownfields, waste, and other environmental issues.	-	<a href="http://www.epa.state.il.us/local-government/assistance.html">www.epa.state.il.us/local-government/assistance.html</a>
<b>Corporate Giving, Foundations, &amp; Other Funding Sources</b>				
Chicago Community Trust	African American Legacy (AAL) (division)	Provides support to nonprofit organizations working to solve community problems. With a permanent endowment as its foundation, AAL's support impacts organizations focused on community-based services.	Up to \$25,000	
The Society for Industrial Archeology	Industrial Heritage Preservation Grants	Fund the study, documentation, recordation, and/or preservation of significant historic industrial sites, structures, and objects. Awards are made to nonprofit organizations and qualified individuals. Contributions of in-kind services, as well as cash resources from the sponsoring and cosponsoring agencies may qualify for matching purposes. Funds may be used for a range of projects including, but not limited to, the following: increasing public awareness of preservation efforts, photography, videography, preparing inventories and developing measured drawings of extant significant industrial sites, structures, maritime facilities and industrial artifacts.	From \$1,000 to \$3,000	<a href="http://www.siahq.org/grants/about.html">www.siahq.org/grants/about.html</a>



Funding Organization (Grantor)	Grant	Grant/Grantor Description	Grant Size	Website or other contact information
The Cynthia Woods Mitchell Fund for Historic Interiors	The Cynthia Woods Mitchell Fund for Historic Interiors	Offers public agencies and nonprofit foundations financial assistance specifically for the restoration and preservation of historic interiors. Money can be used for education, professional consulting and advice, and print and video materials. The major drawback, however, is that the area or building <u>must be registered as a National Historic Landmark.</u>	\$2,500 to \$10,000	The Cynthia Woods Mitchell Fund for Historic Interiors 53 West Jackson Blvd., Suite 350 Chicago, IL 60604 Phone: (312) 939-5547
Johanna Favrot Fund for Historic Preservation	Johanna Favrot Fund for Historic Preservation	The fund honors a Texas preservationist by assisting agencies and nonprofit groups. Candidates applying for the preservation of buildings or areas must aim to recapture an authentic sense of place in their restoration. Eligible projects <u>must involve a registered national landmark.</u>	\$2,500 to \$10,000	The Johanna Favrot Fund for Historic Preservation 5 Third St., Suite 707 San Francisco, CA 94103 Phone: (415) 947-0692
The History Channel	Save Our History Grant Program	Funds partnerships between local history organizations and schools on community preservation projects, free educational resources for teachers incorporating preservation into their curriculum, and cash prizes and scholarships for teachers and students who demonstrate an exceptional commitment to local history education and preservation.	-	www.saveourhistory.com
Hilshire Brands (was Sara Lee)	-	[Contributed to DuSable to Obama] Hilshire Brands occasionally supports highly visible civic and cultural programs in the communities where they operate and/or where employees live. Consider programs that are new and innovative. Contributions for these efforts are made on a case-by-case basis and financial support is limited.	-	www.hilshirebrands.com/Sustainability/CorporateContributions.aspx



Funding Organization (Grantor)	Grant	Grant/Grantor Description	Grant Size	Website or other contact information
Tawani Foundation/ James N. Pritzker Charitable Distribution Fund	-	Focus on military history, but also fund some non-military, heritage preservation, i.e. "Preserving unique sites of significance to American history" and "Improving public spaces and services that enhance quality of life." Foundation is charitable entity associated with James Pritzker. <u>Accepts letters of inquiry by invitation only.</u>	-	www.tawanifoundation.org
Illinois Tool Works (ITW) Foundation	-	<i>[Funded DuSable to Obama, and the DuSable Museum]</i>	-	www.itw.com/social-responsibility/focus-areas
Ford Foundation/ ArtPlace	-	Art is a focus area for Ford Foundation. Also involved in ArtPlace, a collaboration of ten leading national and regional foundations including Ford, eight federal agencies including the National Endowment for the Arts, and six of the nation's largest banks. ArtPlace aims to accelerate creative placemaking across the United States and produce a transformative impact on community vibrancy.	-	www.fordfoundation.org/issues/freedom-of-expression/supporting-diverse-arts-spaces/for-grant-seekers; www.artplaceamerica.org
Alphawood Foundation (formerly WPWR-TV Channel 50 Foundation)	-	Chicago, grant-making, private foundation. Awards grants to more than 200 organizations a year, primarily in the areas of advocacy, architecture and preservation, arts, domestic violence services, the environment, protection of the rights of LGBT citizens and people living with HIV/AIDS, and other human and civil rights. <u>Must be invited to submit grant proposal.</u> (Deadline for advocacy, architecture, and preservation proposals is August 1)	Up to \$150,000 \$50,000 First-time grants average \$3,000	info@alphawoodfoundation.org. www.alphawood.org (no information on webpage other than phone contact and address)
Aon Foundation	-	Primarily fund <u>youth education</u> initiatives. However, the Foundation also supports arts and cultural programs and community development and human service projects that serve diverse communities, with emphasis on	-	www.aon.com/usa/about-aon/aon-foundation-goals.jsp



Funding Organization (Grantor)	Grant	Grant/Grantor Description	Grant Size	Website or other contact information
		the development of at-risk youth.		
Circle of Service Foundation	-	One funding area is Jewish community and heritage.	-	www.cosfoundation.org
Arie and Ida Crown Memorial Foundation	-	Funding for cultural programming in Chicago, among other focuses. Also, have a funding focus in Jewish heritage.	-	www.crownmemorial.org
Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation	-	Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation invests in organizations and partnerships engaged in Land Conservation and Artistic Vitality in the Chicago region and the South Carolina Lowcountry. (Foundation named for grandson of R.R. Donnelley, whose business was based in BMNHA study area. Giving in Chicago region and in South Carolina reflects the founders' residence in both places.)	-	www.gddf.org
The Richard H. Driehaus Foundation	-	<i>[Fund Openlands, Historic Chicago Bungalow Association]</i> Have "Built Environment" funding category, among others. Foundation supports "preservation and enhancement of the built and natural environments through historic preservation, encouragement of quality architectural and landscape design, and conserving open space."	-	www.driehausfoundation.org
The Joyce Foundation	Special Opportunities Program	"Exploring and amplifying critical Issues in the Great Lakes Region in support of program goals." The Special Opportunities fund supports the following: communications and media that raise visibility of issues and grantees; use of new media for education and engagement; and exploration of cross-programmatic innovations.	-	www.joycefdn.org/programs/special-opportunities





Funding Organization (Grantor)	Grant	Grant/Grantor Description	Grant Size	Website or other contact information
MacArthur Foundation	-	<i>[Support HistoryMakers, an African-American video oral history collection]</i> MacArthur has “Arts & Culture” and “Community & Economic Development” focus areas, although there seem to be few grants to traditional historic preservation efforts.	-	<a href="http://www.macfound.org">www.macfound.org</a>
Polk Bros. Foundation	-	<i>[Support HistoryMakers, an African-American video oral history collection]</i> Support public radio and television, although primary focus is poverty prevention, education, and other quality of life issues.	-	<a href="http://www.polkbrosfdn.org/index.html">www.polkbrosfdn.org/index.html</a>
Dr. Scholl Foundation	-	Some grants to cultural groups, although healthcare, education, and social services are primary focus areas.	-	<a href="http://www.drschollfoundation.com/index.html">www.drschollfoundation.com/index.html</a>
Grand Victoria Foundation	-	Chicago-based foundation that offers grants to advance work around education, economic development, and the environment – including the Vital Lands Illinois grant for land preservation.	-	<a href="http://www.grandvictoriafdn.org">www.grandvictoriafdn.org</a>
BMO Harris Bank	-	<i>[Fund Chicago History Museum and many other projects]</i>	-	<a href="http://www.bmoharris.com/us/about/community">www.bmoharris.com/us/about/community</a>
American Express Foundation	-	One of American Express Foundation’s giving themes is “Preserving and Enriching Our Diverse Cultural Heritage.” In 2008, the American Express Foundation gave \$30.5 million in contributions to organizations promoting their giving themes. <i>[Appears to have international focus]</i>	-	<a href="http://about.americanexpress.com/csr/howto.aspx">about.americanexpress.com/csr/howto.aspx</a>
The Tiffany & Co. Foundation	Environmental & Cultural Preservation Grant Program	Foundation supports the enhancement of urban environments and culturally-significant landmarks, with two goals: improving the urban parks experience through infrastructure improvements and beautification efforts in existing	-	Email: <a href="mailto:Foundation@Tiffany.com">Foundation@Tiffany.com</a>

Funding Organization (Grantor)	Grant	Grant/Grantor Description	Grant Size	Website or other contact information
		parks and creation of additional green spaces; and promoting and preserving culturally significant places and spaces <u>internationally</u> . <i>[Focus on developing nations]</i>		
McDonald's Restaurants	McDonald's Corporation Grants	<p>McDonald's owner/operators and company-operated restaurants support local efforts through McDonald's Corporation Grants. Contact your local McDonald's for their funding priorities and how to access them.</p> <p>Program areas for these grants are adult literacy, arts, community involvement, volunteerism, disabilities, general education, health, math, reading, science, environment, and technology.</p>	-	Contact local McDonald's restaurants for information and to apply; or call (630) 623-7048 for more information
Boeing	Employee Community Fund (ECF)	Boeing ECF of Chicago is part of an international network of Boeing employee-owned and operated nonprofit charitable foundations, with focused giving in five areas: Education, Health and Human Services, Environment, Arts and Culture, and Civic. Agencies must be registered 501(c)(3) organizations, working in underserved communities. Application deadlines vary by focus area.	All sizes	<a href="http://www.boeing.com/boeing/companyoffices/aboutus/community/chicago/bic_deadlines.page">www.boeing.com/boeing/companyoffices/aboutus/community/chicago/bic_deadlines.page</a>
JPMorgan Chase Bank	-	<p><i>[Supported Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial in Washington D.C.; also supports Global Cities Initiative with Brookings Institution; predecessor bank in Chicago, Bank One, has supported Bronzeville efforts including Bronzeville Partners]</i></p> <p>Focus areas are affordable housing, economic development, financial empowerment, and workforce readiness.</p>	-	<a href="http://www.jpmorganchase.com/corporate/Corporate-Responsibility/grant-programs.htm">www.jpmorganchase.com/corporate/Corporate-Responsibility/grant-programs.htm</a>



<b>Funding Organization (Grantor)</b>	<b>Grant</b>	<b>Grant/Grantor Description</b>	<b>Grant Size</b>	<b>Website or other contact information</b>
Robert R. McCormick Foundation	-	McCormick Foundation makes grants to organization that support the following core priorities: civics, communities, education, journalism, and veterans. McCormick's funding comes through fund partners including the Chicago Blackhawks, Bulls, Cubs and White Sox as well as the Chicago Tribune, Chicago Cares, United Way, and WGN Radio.	-	<a href="http://www.mccormickfoundation.org/page.aspx?pid=634">http://www.mccormickfoundation.org/page.aspx?pid=634</a>



## Appendix 4: Partnership commitments to the Black Metropolis heritage area

Partnership commitments demonstrate, in large part, the capacity of the local participants to undertake and implement a future NHA. They may be agreements for working relationships, financial contributions, or pledges of other types of assistance. A sample way to portray commitments to the partnership is presented below:

As in the case of the conceptual financial plan, specific commitments may be difficult to ascertain during the study. Indications of commitments to assist and work in partnership with the management entity by state and local governments and other organizations may be substituted for actual dollar or other specific contributions. The study team should, however, attempt to ascertain tangible commitments that partners are willing to contribute to the successful implementation of the heritage area.

In order to secure commitments (both financial and technical assistance) from various stakeholders, the study team should use the below governmental resolution and support letter templates to document each partners commitment to the proposed NHA.

Organization/ Name	Address/Contact Information
51st Street Business Association	220 E. 51 <sup>st</sup> Street 60615
A. Philip Randolph Pullman Porter Museum	10406 S. Maryland Ave. 60628
Abraham Lincoln Centre	3858 S. Cottage Grove Ave. 60653
Alderman James Balcer, 11 <sup>th</sup> ward	3659 S. Halsted St. 60609
Alderman Leslie Hairston, 5 <sup>th</sup> ward	2325 E. 71 <sup>st</sup> St. 60649
Alderman Pat Dowell, 3 <sup>rd</sup> ward	5046 S. State St. 60609
Alderman Roderick Sawyer, 6 <sup>th</sup> ward	8001 S. King Dr. 60619
Alderman William Burns, 4 <sup>th</sup> ward	435 E. 35 <sup>th</sup> St., 1 <sup>st</sup> floor 60616
Alderman Willie Cochran, 20 <sup>th</sup> ward	6357 S. Cottage Grove Ave 60637
Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History	4315 S. Vernon Ave. 60653
Black Chicago History Forum	Dr. Christopher Reed, creed@roosevelt.edu
Block Clubs & Resident Groups	Varied
Bronzeville Alliance	www.bronzevillealliance.org
Bronzeville Chamber of Commerce	4601 S. Cottage Grove Ave. 60653
Bronzeville Merchants Association	www.bronzeobelisk.com
Bronzeville Visitor Information Center	411 E. 35 <sup>th</sup> St. 60653
Center for Neighborhood Technology	2125 W North Ave. 60647
Centers for New Horizons	4150 S. King Dr. 60653
Chicago Bee Library	3647 S State St 60609
Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs	78 E. Washington St, 4 <sup>th</sup> Floor 60602
Chicago High School for the Arts	521 E. 35 <sup>th</sup> St. 60616
Chicago History Museum	1601 N. Clark St. 60616
Chicago Housing Authority	60 E. Van Buren St. #12 60605

Organization/ Name	Address/Contact Information
Chicago Military Academy at Bronzeville	3533 S Giles Ave 60653
Chicago Park District	541 N Fairbanks 60611
Chicago Public Library - Hall Branch	4801 S. Michigan Ave. 60615
Chicago Public Schools	125 S. Clark St. #5 60603
Chicago State University	9501 S King Dr. 60628
Chicago Urban League	4510 S. Michigan Ave 60653
City Colleges of Chicago	226 W Jackson Blvd. 60606
Commissioner Brian Goeken's Office (HPRES)	33 N. LaSalle St. #1600 60602
De La Salle Institute	3434 S. Michigan Ave. 60616
Du Sable Museum of African-American History	740 E. 56 <sup>th</sup> Place 60637
Gov. Pat Quinn's Office	100 W. Randolph, #16-100 60601
Harold Washington Cultural Center/City Colleges	4701 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Dr. 60653
Illinois Department of Natural Resources	100 W Randolph St., # 4-300 60601
Illinois Institute of Technology	3300 S. Federal St. 60616
Landmarks Illinois	53 W. Jackson Blvd, Suite 1315 60604
Liberty Baptist Church	4849 S King Dr, 60615
Little Black Pearl Community Arts Center	1060 E. 47 <sup>th</sup> St. 60653
Mayor Rahm Emanuel's Office	121 N La Salle St. #507 60602
Openlands	25 E. Washington St. 60602
Pilgrim Baptist Church	3300 S Indiana Ave. 60616
Progressive Baptist Church	3658 S Wentworth Ave. 60609
Quad Communities Development Corporation	4659 S. Cottage Grove Ave, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor 60653
Quinn Chapel AME Church	2401 S Wabash Ave, 60616
South Side Community Federal Credit Union	5401 S. Wentworth Ave. #25 60609
Southside Community Arts Center	3831 S Michigan Ave. 60653
Southside NAACP	773.429.9830
State Representative Barbara Flynn Currie, 25 <sup>th</sup> District	1303 E. 53 <sup>rd</sup> St. 60615
State Representative Ken Dunkin, 5 <sup>th</sup> District	1543 N. Wells St. 60610
State Representative Esther Golar, 6 <sup>th</sup> District	4926 S. Ashland 60609
State Representative Christian Mitchel, 26 <sup>th</sup> District	449 E. 35 <sup>th</sup> St. 60616
State Representative Andre Thapedi, 32 <sup>nd</sup> District	371 E. 75 <sup>th</sup> St. 60619
State Senator Jacqueline Collins, 16 <sup>th</sup> District	1155 W. 79 <sup>th</sup> St. 60620
State Senator Mattie Hunter, 3 <sup>rd</sup> District	2929 S. Wabash Ave. Suite 102 60616
State Senator Kwame Raoul, 13 <sup>th</sup> District	1509 E. 53 <sup>rd</sup> St. 60615
The International House	1414 E. 59 <sup>th</sup> St. 60637
University of Chicago Civic Engagement	5801 South Ellis Ave, Suite 617 60637
Urban Juncture/ Bernard Lloyd	4245 S. King Dr. 60653
Washington Park Consortium	6357 S. Cottage Grove Ave. 60637
U.S. Representative Danny Davis, 7 <sup>th</sup> District	2746 W. Madison St. 60612
U.S. Representative Daniel Lipinski, 3 <sup>rd</sup> District	6245 S. Archer Ave. 60638
U.S. Representative Bobby Rush, 1 <sup>st</sup> District	700 E. 79 <sup>th</sup> St. 60619
U. S. Senator Dick Durbin	230 S. Dearborn St. # 3892 60604
U.S. Senator Mark Kirk	230 S. Dearborn St. # 3900 60604
YMCA	3763 S Wabash Ave. 60653





## **Sample support documents**

### **Corporate Sponsor/Local Business (specific commitment) Letter Template**

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

(I/Name of Organization) support(s) the proposal to designate the Black Metropolis Heritage Area as a National Heritage Area through the National Park Service. This national designation will be an important recognition of the unique and valuable assets of Chicago's mid-South Side communities.

As a business operating in the Bronzeville community, we are a constant driver for continued progress, development, promotion, and successes in our community. Many of Bronzeville's businesses are historically significant to the story of the Black Migration and the growth of Chicago's mid-South communities. We welcome the opportunity to work alongside the Black Metropolis National Heritage Commission and the residents of Bronzeville toward a National Heritage Area designation.

The designation as a National Heritage Area holds so much potential for the Bronzeville area. Education on the triumphs and struggles of Bronzeville's residents, creation of partnerships among new and existing organizations and initiatives, increased economic development and destination tourism activity and community pride among the mid-South Side communities, all serve as a catalyst for supporting the work of the Black Metropolis Heritage Commission and their journey to National Heritage Area designation.

(Business name) is prepared to contribute (money, time, project, space etc.) to the Black Metropolis National Heritage Area designation campaign. We see this contribution as a statement of commitment not to the future of the Bronzeville community.

Business owners, residents and stakeholders of the Bronzeville community have always known of the rich cultural and historic characteristics of our community, a National Heritage Area supplies an additional platform to share that richness with the Chicago region, the State of Illinois and the nation.

(I/We) (am/are) pleased to support the Black Metropolis National Heritage Commission in their pursuit of the Black Metropolis National Heritage Area and are supportive of the positive benefits it will bring to our region and the State of Illinois.

Sincerely,



## Corporate Sponsor/Local Business (general commitment or support) Letter Template

Address

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

(I/Name of Organization) support(s) the proposal to designate the Black Metropolis Heritage Area as a National Heritage Area through the National Park Service. This national designation will be an important recognition of the unique and valuable assets of Chicago's mid-South Side communities.

As a business operating in the Bronzeville community, we are a constant driver for continued progress, development, promotion, and successes in our community. Many of Bronzeville's businesses are historically significant to the story of the Black Migration and the growth of Chicago's mid-South communities. We welcome the opportunity to work alongside the Black Metropolis National Heritage Commission and the residents of Bronzeville toward a National Heritage Area designation.

The designation as a National Heritage Area holds so much potential for the Bronzeville area. Education on the triumphs and struggles of Bronzeville's residents, creation of partnerships among new and existing organizations and initiatives, increased economic development and destination tourism activity and community pride among the mid-South Side communities, all serve as a catalyst for supporting the work of the Black Metropolis Heritage Commission and their journey to National Heritage Area designation.

Business owners, residents and stakeholders of the Bronzeville community have always known of the rich cultural and historic characteristics of our community, a National Heritage Area supplies an additional platform to share that richness with the Chicago region, the State of Illinois and the nation.

(I/We) (am/are) pleased to support the Black Metropolis National Heritage Commission in their pursuit of the Black Metropolis National Heritage Area and are supportive of the positive benefits it will bring to our region and the State of Illinois.

Sincerely,



## Community Stakeholder/Community Organization/Residential (specific commitment) Letter Template

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

(I/Name of Organization) support(s) the proposal to designate the Black Metropolis Heritage Area as a National Heritage Area through the National Park Service. This national designation will be an important recognition of the unique and valuable assets of Chicago's mid-South Side communities.

The designation as a National Heritage Area holds so much potential for the Bronzeville area. Education on the triumphs and struggles of Bronzeville's residents, creation of partnerships among new and existing organizations and initiatives, increased economic development and destination tourism activity and community pride among the mid-South Side communities, all serve as a catalyst for supporting the work of the Black Metropolis Heritage Commission and their journey to National Heritage Area designation.

(Organization or resident name) is prepared to contribute (money, time, project support, technical assistance, space etc.) to the Black Metropolis National Heritage Area designation campaign. We see this contribution as a statement of commitment not to the future of the Bronzeville community.

Residents and stakeholders of the Bronzeville community have always known of the rich cultural and historic characteristics of our community, a National Heritage Area supplies an additional platform to share that richness with the Chicago region, the State of Illinois and the nation.

(I/We) (am/are) pleased to support the Black Metropolis National Heritage Commission in their pursuit of the Black Metropolis National Heritage Area and are supportive of the positive benefits it will bring to our region and the State of Illinois.

Sincerely,



## Community Stakeholder/Community Organization/Residential (general commitment or support) Letter Template

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

(I/Name of Organization) support(s) the proposal to designate the Black Metropolis Heritage Area as a National Heritage Area through the National Park Service. This national designation will be an important recognition of the unique and valuable assets of Chicago's mid-South Side communities.

The designation as a National Heritage Area holds so much potential for the Bronzeville area. Education on the triumphs and struggles of Bronzeville's residents, creation of partnerships among new and existing organizations and initiatives, increased economic development and destination tourism activity and community pride among the mid-South Side communities, all serve as a catalyst for supporting the work of the Black Metropolis Heritage Commission and their journey to National Heritage Area designation.

Residents and stakeholders of the Bronzeville community have always known of the rich cultural and historic characteristics of our community, a National Heritage Area supplies an additional platform to share that richness with the Chicago region, the State of Illinois and the nation.

(I/We) (am/are) pleased to support the Black Metropolis National Heritage Commission in their pursuit of the Black Metropolis National Heritage Area and are supportive of the positive benefits it will bring to our region and the State of Illinois.

Sincerely,

## Resolution Template

RESOLUTION \_\_\_\_\_

Resolution to support the Black Metropolis National Heritage Area.

WHEREAS, the creation of a National Heritage Area in the Bronzeville community of Chicago, Illinois would preserve and promote the unique history and rich environment of the mid-South communities of Chicago, Illinois associated with the Black Migration; and

WHEREAS, the creation of a National Heritage Area in Chicago, Illinois would enable communities, organizations and attractions to benefit from increased resources through cooperation and new partnerships;

WHEREAS, we wish to acknowledge the great economic benefit this designation would bring by expanding opportunities for heritage tourism and aiding in business attraction efforts; and

WHEREAS, this designation would increase community pride by cultivating a strong sense of place and educate citizens and visitors about the unique history, culture and resources of the Black Metropolis Area and surrounding communities.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that \_\_\_\_\_ requests that the Black Metropolis Heritage Area receive a designation as a National Heritage Area.

RESOLUTION DECLARED AND ADOPTED

Date:

Signed:





# Appendix 5: House Resolution 5505



I

110TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

## H. R. 5505

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to determine the feasibility of designating the study area as the Black Metropolis District National Heritage Area in the State of Illinois, and for other purposes.

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### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 27, 2008

Mr. RUSH introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

---

## A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to determine the feasibility of designating the study area as the Black Metropolis District National Heritage Area in the State of Illinois, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Black Metropolis Dis-  
5 trict National Heritage Area Study Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:



1           (1) The Black Metropolis district on Chicago,  
 2 Illinois' South Side has a cohesive and distinctive  
 3 history as well as an important streetscape that dis-  
 4 tinguishes the area as worthy of designation as a  
 5 National Heritage Area.

6           (2) The historic features of Chicago's Black  
 7 Metropolis District predate the Great Migration of  
 8 1916–1919 and illustrate its influence on African-  
 9 American life in Chicago and the Nation as a result  
 10 of this demographic phenomenon in which 500,000  
 11 African-Americans migrated to the North in search  
 12 of work and other opportunities, with 50,000 of that  
 13 aggregate relocating in Chicago.

14           (3) The Black Metropolis, as a setting, wit-  
 15 nessed some of the finest accomplishments in Afri-  
 16 can-American contributions to Chicago, the State of  
 17 Illinois, and the Nation, while its legally and socially  
 18 proscribed citizens challenged their environment and  
 19 their Nation to fulfill its promise as a place of op-  
 20 portunity for all.

21           (4) These contributions and accomplishments  
 22 fall into the following main categories:

23           (A) BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURIAL  
 24 PURSUITS.—With State Street developing as  
 25 the Black Metropolis District's "Wall Street",

•HR 5505 IH



1 the area produced two of the largest Black  
 2 banking operations in the Nation in the Binga  
 3 State and Douglass National Banks and scores  
 4 of smaller businesses ranging from print shops  
 5 to restaurants to clothing stores to hair salons  
 6 and barbershops.

7 (B) CULTURE AND AESTHETICS.—The  
 8 area emerged as a musical mecca ranging from  
 9 jazz to gospel to delta and urban blues to  
 10 rhythm and blues and was home for institutions  
 11 such as the George Cleveland Hall Branch Li-  
 12 brary, which nurtured literary giants such as  
 13 Langston Hughes, the South Side Community  
 14 Arts Center, and the DuSable Museum of Afri-  
 15 can American History and Culture.

16 (C) EDUCATION.—The area includes the  
 17 first public secondary school in the State of Illi-  
 18 nois built specifically to accommodate the edu-  
 19 cational needs of African-American students,  
 20 which opened in 1934 at 4934 South Wabash  
 21 Avenue and was named in honor of Chicago's  
 22 first non-native inhabitant and trader, Jean  
 23 Baptiste Pointe du Sable, a Black man from  
 24 Haiti, and whose illustrious graduates include

•HR 5505 IH



1 Nat “King” Cole and Chicago Mayor Harold  
2 Washington.

3 (D) GOVERNANCE AND POLITICS.—From  
4 its political bases in the area’s Second Ward  
5 and the First Congressional District, Chicago’s  
6 Black Metropolis proved itself a political center  
7 for all African-Americans, producing the first  
8 African-American to sit in Congress in the 20th  
9 Century, the Honorable Oscar DePriest, as well  
10 as the first African-American Democratic con-  
11 gressman, the Honorable Arthur W. Mitchell,  
12 succeeded by Honorable William L. Dawson,  
13 the Honorable Ralph H. Metcalfe, the Honor-  
14 able Bennett M. Stewart, and the Honorable  
15 Harold Washington, later the city’s first elected  
16 African-American mayor, and the Honorable  
17 Charles A. Hayes.

18 (E) HEALTH CARE.—The area includes  
19 Provident Hospital, founded in 1891 by the  
20 brilliant African-American surgeon Dr. Daniel  
21 Hale Williams and site of the first successful  
22 suturing of the human heart by Dr. Williams in  
23 1893.

24 (F) LABOR.—The area was home to mil-  
25 lions of unskilled and semi-skilled African-

•HR 5505 IH



American workers, including the packinghouse workers who arrived during the Great Migration and constituted 25 percent of the stockyards work force during World War I, and the Pullman porters who represented a full 20 percent of the Nation's African-American work force during the early 1900s.

(G) MILITARY LIFE AND PATRIOTISM.—African-American men enlisted in the Union Army on the grounds of Camp Douglass within the Black Metropolis District as part of the 29th Infantry Regiment of the United States Colored Troops, and a generation later trained at the Eighth Regiment Armory nearby before embarking for France as part of what President Wilson referred to as the great crusade to “make the world safe for democracy” during the World War I.

(H) RECREATION AND COMPETITIVE SPORTS.—Early on, the Nation's most popular sports: baseball, boxing, football, track and basketball, enjoyed support from the Black Metropolis' population and drew participants who earned widespread recognition such as Rube Foster, a native Chicagoan, who founded the

•HR 5505 IH





1 Negro Baseball League and its local team, the  
2 American Giants.

3 (I) RELIGION AND CHURCH ACTIVISM.—  
4 The area includes Quinn Chapel African Meth-  
5 odist Episcopal (A.M.E) Church, an antebellum  
6 center of abolitionist activity, and a major sta-  
7 tion on the Underground Railroad, and with  
8 emancipation, there was another religious move-  
9 ment to provide and protect the civil rights of  
10 all citizens led by Black Metropolis churches  
11 such as Quinn Chapel and Bethel A.M.E.

12 (J) SOCIAL JUSTICE AND CIVIL RIGHTS.—  
13 It was from within the Black Metropolis Dis-  
14 trict in the early 20th century that Ida B.  
15 Wells-Barnett waged her crusade for justice for  
16 African-Americans and women and worked to  
17 establish the first National Association for the  
18 Advancement of Colored People branch in that  
19 group's national network in 1912.

20 (K) STREETSCAPES.—The area includes  
21 many historic locations, including those along  
22 State Street and 35th Street, ranging from the  
23 Overton Hygienic Manufacturing Building at  
24 3617 South State Street and the Chicago Bee  
25 Building at 3647 South State Street (both des-

1           ignated as Chicago City Landmarks) to Liberty  
 2           Life Insurance Company at 3501 South Park-  
 3           way and a monument and park dedicated to  
 4           United States Senator Stephen Douglas (des-  
 5           ignated as a State Landmark) at Lake Park  
 6           Avenue and 35th Street, green and public  
 7           spaces, stretching from Chicago's lakefront to  
 8           historic park and boulevard systems to the  
 9           West, and is now the proposed site for the 2016  
 10          Olympics in the City of Chicago's bid to host  
 11          this event.

12 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

13       In this Act:

14           (1) HERITAGE AREA.—The term “Heritage  
 15       Area” means the Black Metropolis District National  
 16       Heritage Area.

17           (2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
 18       the Secretary of the Interior.

19           (3) STUDY AREA.—The term “study area”  
 20       means the region bounded as follows:

21               (A) 18th Street on the North and 22nd  
 22               Street on the South, from Lake Michigan on  
 23               the East to Wentworth Avenue to the West.

24               (B) 22nd Street on the North to 35th  
 25               Street on the South, from Lake Michigan on

•HR 5505 IH



1 the East to the Dan Ryan Expressway on the  
2 West.

3 (C) 35th Street on the North and 47th  
4 Street on the South, from Lake Michigan on  
5 the East to the B&O Railroad (Stewart Ave-  
6 nue) on the West.

7 (D) 47th Street on the North to 55th  
8 Street on the South, from Cottage Grove Ave-  
9 nue on the East to the Dan Ryan Expressway  
10 on the West).

11 (E) 55th Street on the North to 71st  
12 Street on the South, from State Street on the  
13 West to Cottage Grove Avenue/South Chicago  
14 Avenue on the East.

15 **SEC. 4. BLACK METROPOLIS DISTRICT NATIONAL HERIT-**  
16 **AGE AREA STUDY.**

17 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consultation  
18 with the managers of any Federal land within the Herit-  
19 age Area, appropriate State and local governmental agen-  
20 cies, and any interested organizations, shall conduct a  
21 study to determine the feasibility of designating the study  
22 area as the Black Metropolis District National Heritage  
23 Area.

24 (b) REQUIREMENTS.—The study shall include anal-  
25 ysis, documentation, and determinations on whether—

•HR 5505 IH



1 (1) the study area—

2 (A) has an assemblage of natural, historic,  
3 cultural, educational, scenic, or recreational re-  
4 sources that together are nationally important  
5 to the heritage of the United States;

6 (B) represents distinctive aspects of the  
7 heritage of the United States worthy of recogni-  
8 tion, conservation, interpretation, and con-  
9 tinuing use;

10 (C) is best managed through agreements  
11 between public and private entities at the local  
12 or regional level;

13 (D) reflects traditions, customs, beliefs,  
14 and folklife that are a valuable part of the her-  
15 itage of the United States;

16 (E) provides outstanding opportunities to  
17 conserve natural, historical, cultural, or scenic  
18 features;

19 (F) provides outstanding recreational and  
20 educational opportunities; and

21 (G) has resources and traditional uses that  
22 have national importance;

23 (2) residents, business interests, nonprofit orga-  
24 nizations, the Federal Government (including rel-  
25 evant Federal land management agencies), and

•HR 5505 IH



1 State, local, and tribal governments within the study  
 2 area—  
 3 (A) are involved in the planning; and  
 4 (B) have demonstrated significant support  
 5 through letters and other means for designation  
 6 and management of the Heritage Area; and  
 7 (3) the study area has been identified and sup-  
 8 ported by the public, private business, and local and  
 9 State agencies.

10 **SEC. 5. REPORT.**

11 Not later than 3 fiscal years after the date on which  
 12 funds are made available to carry out the this Act, the  
 13 Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Natural Re-  
 14 sources of the House of Representatives and the Com-  
 15 mittee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate  
 16 a report that describes the findings, conclusions, and rec-  
 17 ommendations of the Secretary with respect to the study.

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•HR 5505 IH





## Appendix 6: Senate Joint Resolution (SJ0067)



SJ0067

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1 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The Great Migration, a long-term movement of  
3 African Americans from the South to the urban North,  
4 transformed Chicago and other northern cities between 1916 and  
5 1970; and

6 WHEREAS, Chicago attracted slightly more than 500,000 of  
7 the approximately 7 million African Americans who left the  
8 South during these decades; and

9 WHEREAS, Before the Great Migration, African Americans  
10 constituted just 2 percent of Chicago's population, but by 1970  
11 African Americans constituted 33 percent of Chicago's  
12 population; and

13 WHEREAS, What had been in the nineteenth century a largely  
14 southern and rural African American culture became a culture  
15 deeply infused with urban sensibility in the twentieth century;  
16 and

17 WHEREAS, What had been a marginalized population in Chicago  
18 emerged by the mid-twentieth century as a powerful force in the  
19 city's political, economic, and cultural life; and

20 WHEREAS, The Black Metropolis National Heritage Area



1 Project Steering Committee has worked with Congressman Bobby  
2 Rush on federal legislation for the Black Metropolis District  
3 National Heritage Area (NHA) and the Great Migration Centennial  
4 will serve as one of the benchmarks for the National Heritage  
5 Area which focuses on preservation, tourism & economic  
6 development, conservation, recreation, education &  
7 interpretation; and

8 WHEREAS, The Black Metropolis National Heritage Area  
9 Project Steering Committee has identified 10 Major Promise  
10 Programs for the next century which include:

- 11 1. Great Migration Public Art;
- 12 2. In Motion: African American Migration Experience;
- 13 3. Great Migration Trail: Rails to Trails Conservancy  
14 Project;
- 15 4. The Rosenwald Building;
- 16 5. The Chicago Blues Museum;
- 17 6. The Pullman Porter Great Migration Blues Trail;
- 18 7. Leadership Development Institute;
- 19 8. Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships;
- 20 9. Black Metropolis Social Innovation Fund; and
- 21 10. Bronzeville Postmark and Postal Sub-station; and

22 WHEREAS, The Great Migration Centennial celebrates the  
23 promise that Chicago once offered a people in search of a  
24 better life 100 years ago; and



1 WHEREAS, The theme adopted by the Black Metropolis National  
2 Heritage Project Steering Committee, "Creating a New Promise",  
3 acknowledges the hope that has been restored through the new  
4 political administration and addresses the need for the greater  
5 Chicagoland region to deliver on its promise and create a new  
6 social compact for the future; and

7 WHEREAS, To succeed in the 21st century global competition  
8 for jobs, prosperity, and quality of life for all, we must have  
9 inspiring and well-accepted plans to produce action; and

10 WHEREAS, The Great Migration Centennial will challenge  
11 children and adults throughout the region to make choices today  
12 that will define the way we live for the next century;  
13 therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL  
15 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
16 CONCURRING HEREIN, that the Illinois Great Migration  
17 Centennial Commission is created; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That the members of the Commission shall include  
19 the President of the Senate or his designee and the Speaker of  
20 the House of Representatives or his designee, each serving as  
21 one of the co-chairpersons, the Governor or his designee, one



1 vice-chairperson appointed by the co-chairpersons, all of whom  
2 shall serve as the Executive Committee and 25 appointed  
3 members, with the Governor, the President of the Senate, the  
4 Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Minority Leader of  
5 the Senate, and the Minority Leader of the House of  
6 Representatives appointing 5 members each; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That the appointed members shall serve without  
8 compensation, but shall be reimbursed for their reasonable and  
9 necessary expenses if funds allow; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That the appointed members shall be from diverse  
11 backgrounds so as to reflect the diverse citizenry of Illinois  
12 working together for a common democratic cause, and that their  
13 individual qualifications shall include varying educational,  
14 professional, and civic experiences that bring different  
15 perspectives and cooperative outlooks to the Commission; and be  
16 it further

17 RESOLVED, That the purpose of the Commission is to plan for  
18 the Great Migration Centennial to be commemorated and  
19 celebrated from January to December 2016 and to:

- 20 1. Elevate the centennial of the Great Migration to a  
21 high profile bi-partisan event;  
22 2. Recognize the Great Migration as the largest  
23 migration to ever occur in North America;



1           3. Stimulate and encourage the creation and growth of  
2           programs about the Great Migration;

3           4. Highlight and publicize the institutions in the  
4           State that are connected to the Great Migration and their  
5           impact;

6           5. Work with coordinated statewide groups  
7           commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the Great  
8           Migration; and

9           6. Encourage communities and citizens to support and  
10          get involved in the commemoration; and be it further

11          RESOLVED, The Great Migration Centennial Commission serves  
12          to promote a deeper knowledge, understanding and engagement in  
13          the life and times of the African American Migration  
14          Experience, through conferences, publications, preservation of  
15          historic sites, and local, statewide and national observances  
16          as well as arts projects, forum, travel & tourism promotions  
17          and year long celebration activities; and be it further

18          RESOLVED, That the Commission's preliminary goals are to  
19          develop:

20               1. a national honorary committee of historians,  
21               educators, authors, politicians, celebrities and other  
22               notables;

23               2. educational curriculum, events, tours, exhibits and  
24               programs at the elementary, high school, secondary,





1 graduate and post-graduate level;

2 3. a signature entertainment event for fundraising and  
3 broadcast purposes;

4 4. an educational symposium with university partners,  
5 the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment  
6 for the Humanities, the Illinois Arts Council, as well as  
7 private foundations and other philanthropic organizations;

8 5. a year-long cultural promotional event calendar  
9 supported by travel packages and other travel or tourism  
10 incentives; and

11 6. a logo and trademark design for official use on all  
12 Centennial commissioned related merchandise, apparel and  
13 products officially licensed; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That the Commission shall meet as frequently as  
15 necessary, at the call of the co-chairpersons; and be it  
16 further

17 RESOLVED, The Commission shall have the option of creating  
18 a Council of Advisors and any working groups or committees it  
19 deems necessary; and, be it further

20 RESOLVED, The Commission shall have the option to  
21 collaborate with any Federal or local commissions designated to  
22 recognize the Great Migration Centennial commemoration via  
23 internet links, shared exhibits, activities and programs; and



1 be it further

2 RESOLVED, The Commission shall work with and establish  
3 opportunities with the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs  
4 and the Mayor's Office of Special Events and Cultural Olympiad  
5 2016; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That the Commission shall, while working in  
7 coordination with and with the assistance of Black Metropolis  
8 National Heritage Area Project Steering Committee, broaden  
9 outreach by using established channels, including publicly  
10 supported media and electronic, computer-assisted  
11 communication systems, and elicit voluntary assistance from  
12 educational, legal, civic, and professional organizations and  
13 institutions, as well as, notable individuals; and be it  
14 further

15 RESOLVED, That no later than December 31, 2010, the  
16 Commission shall report to the General Assembly and the  
17 Governor on its planning progress to commemorate and celebrate  
18 the Great Migration Centennial; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
20 delivered to the Governor of the State of Illinois.



## Appendix 7: Black Metropolis National Heritage Area Commission Steering Committee

### Committee Chairs:

David Baker

*Capacity Building*

Anna Agbe-Davis Ph.D

Kim Hunt

*Planning & Preservation*

Christopher Reed Ph.D

*Education & Research*

Art Turnbull

*Tourism & Economic Development*

Cassandra Houston

*Hospitality Workforce Development & Training*

### At Large:

Jerry Adelman

Lee Bey

Timuel Black Ph.D.

Michelle Boyd Ph.D.

Glenn Broadhead Ph.D

Andre Brumfield

Terry Nichols Clark Ph.D

Susan Campbell

Saundra Dougherty

Pamela Daniels-Halisi

Naomi Davis

Leana Flowers

Walter Freeman

Rhonda Hardy

Alaina Harkness

Cassandra Houston

Lyn Hughes

Perri Irmer

Jack Johnson

Arnold Jackson

Barbara Kensey

Yvette LeGrand

Sonya Malunda

Theodoric Manley Ph.D

Collen McShane

Sharon Morgan

Norman Montgomery

Christina Morris

Isobel Neal

Michelle Obama

Jeri Ricards

Carolyn Rush

Tim Samuelson

Ron Thomas

Bernard Turner

Royce Yeater AIA

Don Wallace

Bill Williams

Antoinette Wright



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